folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 5
Teaching and Learning
A math-model citizen

Page 7
Party time
Augustana turns 100

Page 8
Something for everyone
Campus Rec toughens up group fitness

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Lost on campus? There's an app for that

Ileiren Poon

The University of Alberta is going mobile. A new app for iPhones, iPods and iPads is now available for free, which can help make life a little easier for students as they start the new school year.

Offering help in everything from finding your way across campus to navigating through the maze of assignment due dates and class schedules, the U of A app was developed by students for students. Three third-year computing science students, Joel Kravets, Sahir Memon and Clinton Pahl, spent the summer working with the campus Academic Information and Communication Technologies office to craft the program.

"The only thing we added was a bit of structure—having a project plan, having tentative timelines, methodologies—things we could do to support their innovation," said Mike Chow from AICT about working with the students. "No one other than a student can truly understand what other students need and where this app can help minimize a bit of the pain and suffering."

"We studied what other institutions were offering in this type of app, to give ourselves a sort of baseline," said Memon. "We also looked at what we did on a day-to-day basis and tried to decide what we would want to see on this app if we're using it," added Kravets.

With about 6,000 people already using the app, including some from the greater Edmonton community who find the transit information useful, feedback has been positive and helpful, said Trevor Woods, executive director of AICT.

"Part of our strategy was to release something as quickly as possible," said Woods. "The students had a long list of features they really wanted to [incorporate], but decided to go with just the important ones that they could.

continued on page 3

Let there be learning

Michael Holly | Marketing and Communications

The 500-seat lecture hall in the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science was filled in anticipation of the first lecture there Sept. 8.

'Father of economic ecology' to receive honorary degree

Folio Staff

Inspired by India's independence in 1947 and driven by a desire to see his country hunger-free, Monkombo Sambasivan Swaminathan has led a global movement in sustainable food security.

In recognition of his efforts over the last half-century, Swaminathan will receive a University of Alberta honorary doctor of science degree on Oct. 7, and deliver the Bentley Lecture in Sustainable Agriculture/Lester Pearson Memorial Lecture that same day.

Swaminathan is a pioneer of the green revolution and a leader in his country when it comes to science and technology said Nat Kav, associate dean of the U of A's Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences.

"His contributions have been in the areas of science, in plant breeding and genetics, followed by taking that science to the level of the farmer and being concerned about gender equity and being concerned about the poorest of the poor. That's what I think makes him stand out," said Kav. "In this day and age, with climate change and everything else looming and threatening our food security, he has always advocated for sustainable agriculture and what he calls an 'evergreen revolution,' which is not just sustainable today, but for generations beyond."

Swaminathan created an agricultural revolution in India in the 1960s, when he pioneered techniques to crossbreed a dwarf Mexican seed with Japanese seeds and local Indian varieties of wheat. As head of the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines for seven years, Swaminathan and his colleagues then used the same techniques to modify rice seeds with similar results.

In 1972, Swaminathan was one of the founding members of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, an organization set up to help developing countries in semi-arid tropical regions around the world to apply science to increase crop yields and improve farming systems for small farmers. The U of A's own Fred Bentley, for whom the Bentley Lecture in Sustainable Agriculture is named, was the first chair of the organization's board of governors, a position he held for 10 years. Convinced that true social change must focus on helping the poorest in society, Swaminathan founded the Centre for Research on Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development, now the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, where scientists work directly with farmers and their families as true partners and collaborators.

A fellow of the leading scientific academies of India and the world, including the Royal Society of London and the National Academy of Sciences in the United States, Swaminathan co-chaired the United Nations Millennium Task Force on Hunger from 2002 to 2005. He also served as president of the Nobel Peace Prize-winning Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs from 2002 to 2007. He has been called by the United Nations Environment Programme "the father of economic ecology."

University Chancellor Linda Hughes is delighted to have the opportunity of Swaminathan's visit to bestow the honorary doctorate, noting that, "his legacy reminds all of us of the power of one person to uplift an entire society."

Swaminathan will be speaking on "Food Safety and Security in an Era of Climate Change." The ceremony and lecture will begin at 3:30 p.m. in the Myer Horowitz Theatre of the Students' Union Building.

Supplied

Monkombo Sambasivan Swaminathan will receive a U of A honorary doctor of science degree Oct. 7.

folio

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

The University of Alberta maintains a database of all alumni. This database is used to send you news about the U of A, including folio and *New Trail*, invitations to special events and requests for support. On Sept. 1, 1999, post-secondary institutions were required to comply with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation of the province of Alberta. In accordance with this legislation, please respond to one of the following options:

- ❑ Please keep my name, or
- ❑ Remove my name from the folio list.

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No response means the University of Alberta assumes an individual wishes to remain on the mailing list.

Feds strengthen Canada's economic competitiveness

Michael Brown

A major federal government funding announcement geared toward improving facilities and equipment at universities across Canada was made Aug. 26 at the University of Alberta by Gary Goodyear, minister of state (science and technology), while he toured one of the U of A's cutting-edge energy research labs.

Goodyear, together with Peter Goldring, member of parliament for Edmonton East, said the Government of Canada will invest $200.5 million in the Canada Foundation for Innovation to support infrastructure projects in eligible institutions on a competitive basis across Canada.

"Our government is investing in science and technology to strengthen the economy and improve the quality of life of Canadians," said Goodyear. "This significant investment will help develop, attract and retain the world's best researchers at Canadian universities while strengthening Canada's long-term economic competitiveness."

The funding supports the renewal and expansion of research infrastructure across Canada to attract exceptional researchers and improve labs and facilities, which is a move that U of A President Indira Samarasekera says ensures Canada and the U of A will remain a destination for the world's top researchers.

"Tomorrow's prosperity depends on our ability to compete within a diverse, global economy—to get there, we need to start with competitive infrastructure," said Samarasekera. "World-class facilities are a magnet for global talent, and these funds make a tremendous difference in researchers' capacity to conduct leading-edge interdisciplinary research and discovery learning."

The funding announcement was made using geotechnical engineering professor Rick Chalaturnyk's Reservoir Geomechanics Research Group lab as a backdrop. Chalaturnyk's lab is due for a $4.1-million retooling to create the Geomechanical Reservoir Experimental Facility, made possible thanks to CFI and Alberta Advanced Education and Technology. With the new lab in place, Chalaturnyk's team will be better able to investigate carbon storage and enhanced oil recovery, using leading-edge equipment that will give them a better understanding of how carbon dioxide behaves underground under different pressures and temperatures.

"Canada's energy resources, particularly Alberta's large and challenging unconventional resources such as oilsands, coal-bed methane, bitumen carbonates and, more recently, shale gas have advanced significantly in their potential to provide energy to Canada and world markets," said Chalaturnyk. "The need to protect the environment—to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while recovering these resources in a sustainable manner—will severely test Alberta's ability to meet its and Canada's own energy needs, expand its export markets and ensure that it obtains maximum value for its resources.

"Our interdisciplinary research efforts centred on the capability embodied in GeoREF will aim to contribute both fundamental and applied science and engineering to meet these significant challenges."

Ken Mathewson

Engineering professor Rick Chalaturnyk (right) fields questions from Gary Goodyear, minister of state (science and technology), during a funding announcement held Aug. 26 at the U of A.

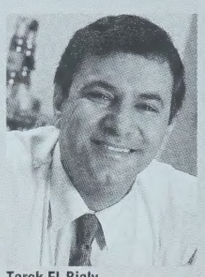
$1 million for toothsome research

Quinn Phillips

Tarek El-Bialy, professor in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, turned heads when he discovered a special frequency of ultrasound could stop dental roots from shortening during treatment with orthodontic braces. Now his work has caught the attention of a funding agency on the other side of the world.

El-Bialy has been awarded a three-year grant worth more than US$1 million from the Qatar National Research Foundation to continue his work in dental root regeneration.

"We're very lucky to get this grant," said El-Bialy.



Tarek El-Bialy

The shortening of the roots of one's teeth is a common problem for people who have braces. Most roots regenerate on their own but in some cases the roots fail to lengthen and the teeth are lost. It's a problem that has plagued orthodontists for years, but El-Bialy believes he's the only one in the world who has focused his research on finding a solution.

"What we've been trying to do over the last five years is to utilize stem cells and ultrasound to regenerate the lost parts of dental roots," he said.

El-Bialy says the grant will also support the study of the regeneration of bone around teeth that have been damaged and become loose due to gum disease.

The Qatar foundation grants about US$120 million a year in an effort to promote and drive research in Qatar. Recipients must collaborate with a group in that country and El-Bialy is teaming up with a group of Qatar clinicians who work with patients with gum disease. "The whole idea is to encourage co-operative research and work between international institutes and the Qatar institutes and help bring more research to that region," explains El-Bialy.

El-Bialy's colleagues in Qatar are in the process of setting up their lab and they will visit the U of A for training. El-Bialy is expecting to move forward quickly with the research once the Qatar side of the relationship is ready to go.

"We would hope to have pre-clinical data that shows that this technique works," said El-Bialy. "Hopefully by the second year we'll write another grant for another three years to do clinical trials."

Internationally focused graduate programs the new norm

Michael Davies-Venn

A two-day international conference on graduate education closed Aug. 27 at the University of Alberta with Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Carl Amrhein telling delegates there can be no turning back on how universities in Canada operate their graduate programs.

"International mobility and co-operation are here to stay as permanent features of major university operating plans," Amrhein said concerning the international exposure now demanded from a graduate education. "There can be no return to the traditional model of the national silo process within which universities used to operate. The challenges confronting humanity require that we identify and activate elite talents wherever in the world they may be found."

Those challenges, according to U of A President Indira Samarasekera, include climate change, energy and sustainability, food security and chronic disease.

"These problems require urgent solutions. It makes sense that we pool resources, join intellectual forces and collaborate across borders to solve global issues," said Samarasekera, who commented that the meeting marked the 40-year anniversary of diplomatic relations between Canada and China.

> "There can be no return to the traditional model of the national silo process within which universities used to operate."
>
> Carl Amrhein

"It's good to have discussions about talents that will sustain both our countries in the coming century."

The meeting, which included a 50-person delegation made up of Chinese government officials and administrators from the country's leading universities, sought to resolve key issues that will increase engagement by Canadian universities with their Chinese counterparts. There were 150 delegates to the conference.

The Chinese Scholarship Council co-sponsored the two-day conference, which Amrhein says highlighted the interest shared by Canada and China to better facilitate the exchange of graduate students. The council is a government agency tasked with helping place Chinese graduate students around the world and assisting foreign graduate students wishing to study in China.

"Canada needs an agency to translate government policies into action that is embraced by the elite universities of Canada, the G13," Amrhein said, adding that Canada needs to build on the infrastructure put in place by the Tri-Council, which is made up of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. "Canada needs a CSC, the Canada Scholarship Council, and then we could have an international collaboration. It will be useful to build a Canada-China consortium for graduate education, and the U of A is willing to step up to this plate."

Recommendations from the meeting for strengthening Canadian and Chinese university ties include offering short courses for Chinese undergraduate students and more research internships for Canadian and Chinese undergraduate students; enhancing information on graduate programs and improving accessibility of programs to students; encouraging and linking teams of research students from both sides with joint supervisions by Chinese and Canadian professors; and offering joint-degree programs.

With close to 2,000 students from China currently studying at the U of A, the university has the largest percentage of Chinese students in Canada, said Britta Baron, associate vice-president, international, at the U of A.

"We are attracting more China Scholarship Council students than any other university in Canada," she says. "We have excellent relationships with a number of our Chinese partners, not only universities but also Chinese organizations such as the Chongqing municipal government."

New centre to be one-stop shop for student success

Michael Brown

Asking for help with a personal or academic issue is hard enough without a student having to navigate their way through a myriad of university support services to find the aid they need.

To remedy the situation, the University of Alberta has opened the Student Success Centre as part of University Student Services. This new unit will consolidate the services provided by Specialized Support and Disability Services, the Academic Support Centre, the Math and Applied Sciences Centre, University Bursaries and Emergency Funding and the Fresh Start Program.

Wendy Doughty, interim director of the Student Success Centre, says over the past few years, post-secondary institutions have recognized the importance of supporting student success and retention. And although the U of A now provides a long list of support services, Doughty says the Student Success Centre will provide an integrated approach to supporting students by linking them to a range of programs and services based on individual needs.

> "We are taking more of a triage approach [for dealing with student issues]."
>
> Wendy Doughty

"For some students, the transition from high school to university proves challenging. For others, during the course of their university studies they may encounter life events that will impact on their academic focus and success," she said. "The Student Success Centre is here to focus on student success and engagement."

By working in an integrated manner, Doughty says University Student Services will be better able to reduce the overlap. "What we've learned is that it is not uncommon for students that are working within one area may be accessing or could benefit from services offered elsewhere."

As an example, if a student who has been required to withdraw from the university because of a low grade-point average shows up at the doors of the Fresh Start Program, Doughty says perhaps that student may need some additional support to be successful on exams, or may be dealing with personal problems and need to talk to counseling services.

"We are taking more of a triage approach," said Doughty. "Whether the student comes into my office or comes into the Academic Support Centre or any other point in student services, we'll be able to do a quick assessment and say, 'yes, you're here for this, but is there anything else we can support you with in terms of the services we offer students.'"

To help that expediency, all services and programs are now clustered on the second floor of the Students' Union Building, with the exception of University Bursaries and Emergency Funding (1-80 SUB) and the Transition Year Program, which will remain in the Aboriginal Student Services Centre.

"This reorganization involves cross-training of staff so each staff member has a common level of understanding of the services provided by the different units," said Doughty. "The Student Success Centre is not a staff model. We want working with the Students' Union to provide seamless integration of the supports they provide to students success as well."

"We want to start to giving the message to students that attending the U of A is more than just a degree you're achieving and success is more than just getting a piece of parchment, it is about what else did you do at the same time to support your learning, your engagement and your success."

U of A poised to enter top 100 of Shanghai rankings

Folio Staff

The Shanghai Jiao Tong University has once again ranked the University of Alberta fifth in Canada in its annual world university ranking.

According to the latest rankings, the U of A sits on the cusp of the world's top 100 universities at 101, up from last year's placement of 108 of 503 universities worldwide.

"Although the U of A did not break the top-100 threshold in the Shanghai Jiao Tong Academic Rankings of World Universities, we continue to rise and are now very close at 101," said U of A President Indira Samarasekera. "More significant is our rise into the top 100 in several specific subject areas, including computer science, economics and business, engineering/technology, life and agricultural sciences and clinical medicine and pharmacy. These subject-area rankings are very rigorous and show that U of A research is having a recognized impact in the global academic community."

The U of A's computing science program was ranked third in Canada and 55th in the world, and the school of business was ranked 89th in the world. The quantitative measures the rankings use include criteria like the number of Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals faculty and staff win; the amount of articles indexed in major citation indices and the per-capita academic performance of an institution.

The recently released 2010 QS World University Rankings had the U of A ranked 78th overall in the world, 19 spots lower than last year's results. By individual subject, the U of A was ranked 74th in technology and engineering, and 86th in the world in both the natural sciences and life sciences and medicine.

Other Canadian universities to experience double-digit drops in the rankings, as well, include the University of Waterloo, which dropped from 113th in the world to 145th, the Université de Montréal, which moved from 107th to 136th, and the University of Calgary, which decreased in rank from 149th to 165th.

While important in determining the excellence of the research conducted by faculty at an institution, Samarasekera says the factors that go into the creation of rankings and, thus, the rankings themselves, don't tell the entire story.

"The Shanghai Jiao Tong academic rankings, like other university world rankings, only give a partial measure of a school's performance," she said. "Although these rankings can impact a school's reputation, they give a limited overview of our performance and are only one component of benchmarks we consider."

Research shows Athabasca more polluted than first thought

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta ecologist David Schindler and several colleagues have completed new research showing that Alberta's oilsands industry is releasing more pollutants into the Athabasca River, its tributaries and its watershed than previously estimated.

"This study counters industry and government claims that the pollutants are from natural seepage of bitumen," said Schindler.

Schindler and the research team analyzed 13 elements in river water and snow pack along the Athabasca and its delta. The pollutants found include mercury, arsenic, lead and cadmium. The researchers say the releases are a clear violation of the federal fisheries act and provincial guidelines for protection of aquatic life.

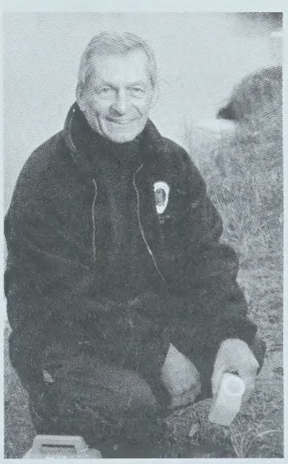
Schindler says some of the metals interact with organic pollutants, making them more toxic. The combined impact of the toxins on the river is not fully understood.

"The industry's Regional Aquatic Monitoring Program and Alberta Environment's monitoring have missed these releases and that's a serious problem," said Schindler. "We've repeatedly questioned RAMP'S findings and nothing has been done."

Schindler says this study focused on toxic elements in the Athabasca, above and below the oilsands upgraders and included analysis of airborne pollutants in the snowpack. Last year the research team reported on organic pollutants from oilsands development and found carcinogens similar to those released by the recent British Petroleum spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the 1989 Exxon Valdez tanker spill in Alaska.

The most recent study was published Aug. 30 by the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. U of A researcher Erin Kelly was the lead author on the paper.

"We have to establish a robust long-term monitoring program on the Athabasca," said Schindler. "The effects on human and environmental health must be accurate and made public."



David Schindler

New U of A App

continued from page 1

"Within three weeks, they had an app that we decided to release."

The app is rated four-out-of-five stars, said Chow, adding his team is still looking for feedback and suggestions on the future evolution of the program.

"We would strongly encourage everyone to provide as much feedback as possible. We're here to try to provide an application that will service the students, and if there's something that students feel would be really useful or improve the services, we want them to let us know," he said, but added that students could expect to become more involved in the process.

"As much as you're sending feedback, you might actually be the one implementing that feature," he said. "This is not just for computing students. A business student could provide guidance in terms that are relevant from a non-technical perspective. A graphic artist could help make the app more aesthetically pleasing. We want to engage as many diverse students as possible."

For the team, the experience has been a positive foray into the work world.

"We learned a whole new skill set and how to operate in a professional software development environment," said Pahl.

"We learned so much about how a project will take off and how it will come together," said Memon. "You figure out how many people you have to rely on, how to manage your time and research, and set up tasks and goals.

"It was an excellent experience."

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to David Cruden, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Aug. 13 "Are You a Winner?" contest, after he correctly identified the object in the photo as the community garden shed on the north side of 89 Ave. For correctly identifying the photo in question, Cruden has won a copy of former U of A English professor Stephen Scobie's latest work, "The Measure of Paris," courtesy of The U of A Press.

Up for grabs this week is a coffeetable spectacular, "The Beginning of Print Culture in Athabasca Country," courtesy of the University of Alberta Press. Translated by Patricia Demers, Naomi McIlwraith and Dorothy Thunder, it is a tangible piece of history for anyone interested in language, culture, the making of books and the process of settlement in Western Canada. To win a copy, simply identify where on campus the object of the picture is located. Email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Sept. 17, and you will be entered into the draw.

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Patient Testimonials:
1) "Near half our staffs have been in your clinic"– A staff of **U of A Medicine department**.
2) "You helped me lost 35 lbs. & my blood pressure reduced from 180/110 to 125/85. My 20 yrs neck & shoulder pain was gone."– A senior staff of **U of A**.
3) "I had sever sciatic pain from spinal stenosis, disc bulges & spinal cyst which are not operable. In 2 months, Dr. He has liberated me from most of the pain!"— A senior staff of **U of A**

Michael Holly | Marketing and Communications

Parents and students crowded the halls of Lister Centre Sept. 3.

United Way campus campaign poised to surpass 2009 record

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta's 2010 United Way Campaign will quietly begin this year much like a calm proceeds a storm.

With a soft opening for the fundraiser scheduled for Sept. 17, organizers of the campus leg of the United Way campaign are confident that a crescendo of events scheduled throughout the rest of September and October will help surpass last year's record-setting $646,000.

"Support by the University of Alberta community of the United Way has been nothing short of remarkable in the last several years, and that is testimony to our commitment to helping make the Edmonton region safe and healthy for those who live, work, and learn here," said Debra Pozega Osburn, honorary chair of the U of A United Way campaign. "At a time when the most vulnerable in our community may need assistance more than ever, every gift, large or small, makes a difference.

"Every gift nurtures the Edmonton region and helps assure that our families and neighbourhoods thrive."

This year's confirmed fundraising events include the Turkey Trot, scheduled for Oct. 2, the Campus Auction Market, to be held from Oct. 19 to 25, and Chillin' for Charity, pencilled in for Nov. 17.

Although the official campaign part of the fundraiser ends at the end of October, organizers will be holding events and accepting donations to count toward this year's total until the end of 2010.

External Relations merger announced

Folio Staff

Since External Relations was established as a separate portfolio at the University of Alberta 10 years ago, the university has continued in its transformation toward becoming a more comprehensive and global institution, an essential evolution for post-secondary institutions that seek to enhance their competitiveness among peer institutions.

The continued progress of the institution, coupled with the clear identification of the institutional promise of "uplifting the whole people" that grew from the university's success of the 2008 Centenary, creates an opportunity for External Relations to take the next step in its evolution—a step that will help foster greater innovation and synergy across the portfolio. Effective immediately, the units previously known separately as Public Affairs and Creative Services will join forces to form a division of Marketing and Communications.

"The Marketing and Communications unit will be essential to our ability this year to deliver and disseminate the U of A promise," said Debra Pozega Osburn, vice-president, external relations. "It will help guide and execute an effective web strategy; refresh our alumni engagement activities, including more activities that are student-centric; and refine our strategic effectiveness in government relations while building strong relationships throughout our communities."

Celebrating the achievements of University of Alberta alumni

The University of Alberta Alumni Association is pleased to honour 36 outstanding graduates at the 2010 Alumni Recognition Awards on September 22 at the Winspear Centre for Music.

The ***DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD*** recognizes the accomplishments of living alumni who have earned national and international prominence as a result of their achievements.

Bob Baker, '74 BFA
Through his talent, creativity, and enthusiasm, Bob Baker has shared his love of theatre with audiences around the world, and his impact will be felt for generations to come.

Melody Davidson, '86 BPE
As a coach and mentor, Melody Davidson is a trailblazer who has left an indelible mark on the sport of women's hockey in Canada and around the world.

Lillian Fishman, '36 BSc(HEc)
A pioneering spirit in the biochemistry community, Lillian Fishman, has had a lasting impact on cancer research as co-founder of the Sanford Burnham Medical Research Institute.

David W. Krause, '71 BSc, '76 MSc
David W. Krause is a world-renowned vertebrate paleontologist who has made groundbreaking discoveries and remarkable humanitarian contributions.

Myron Semkuley, '60 BSc, '64 MD, and **Elaine R.M. (Cormier) Semkuley,** '62 BSc(Pharm)

Myron and Elaine Semkuley have made an immeasurable difference in the world through their volunteer organization Medical Mercy Canada.

For tickets to the awards ceremony visit www.ualberta.ca/alumni/weekend

ALUMNI HORIZON AWARD
Jason Acker, '95 BSc, '97 MSc, '00 PhD, '09 MBA
Trevor Duplessis, '97 BEd, '00 BFA
Casey Hudson, '98 BSc(Eng)
Scott Nicholas Romaniuk, '08 BA
Tania Lianne Spilchen, '01 BSc

ALUMNI AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Stacey J. Handley, '93 LLB
Marc Kennedy, '05 BCom
Andrei Metelitsa, '04 BMS, '05 MD

ALUMNI HONOUR AWARD
J. Alan Bryan, '58 BA, '59 LLB
Paul J. Byrne, '85 PhD
Jean Cooley, '77 PhD
James Cummins, '74 PhD
Linda J. Cundy, '84 Dip(Ed), '88 MEd
Andrew E. Derocher, '87 MSc, '91 PhD
James S. Edwards, '62 BA, '06 LLD(Honorary)
Susan M. Gallacher, '84 BCom, '88 LLB
Marie L. Gordon, '79 LLB
Terry M. Macyk, '68 BSc(Ag), '72 MSc
Geraldine Nakonechny, '59 Dip(Nu), '60 BSc(Nu), '83 MEd
Sylvia Oishi, '85 LLB
Mary Phillips-Rickey, '77 BCom
Bruce Reith, '79 BA(RecAdmin)
Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, '81 BFA
Rudi Unterthiner, '67 MD
Douglas Stuart Walkinshaw, '66 MSc, '70 PhD

ALUMNI CENTENARY AWARD for Volunteer Service to the University
Michael Kaye, '88 BA

The Honourable Dr. Lois E. Hole STUDENT SPIRIT AWARD
Sara Houlihan, '03 BSc, '07 BSc(Pharm)

SPORTS WALL OF FAME
Trix Baker, '80 BPE, '85 MA
Greg De Vries, '96 BEd
John William Wilson, '66 BA, '71 DDS

For information on the awards program, in-honour giving, and the recipients visit www.ualberta.ca/alumni/recognition

the open door

There is no week like the first week – welcome back

Indira Samarasekera, O.C.
President and vice-provost

I've always felt that the first week of classes is the most important in the academic calendar. Why? Because this week, more than any other, brings the whole university community's focus onto the core mission of the institution: teaching and learning. Faculty stand ready with new syllabi, reading lists and assignments, prepared to meet and exceed student expectations. Staff are busy advising students, revising schedules, preparing budgets, updating websites and reopening renovated classrooms—in addition to attending to the thousands of other tasks that need to be done. Thank you all for doing your utmost to create a truly vibrant teaching and learning environment.

Tens of thousands of students are returning—or arriving for the first time—full of expectation. There are surely some nerves too, as they think about the intellectual and personal challenges that lie ahead.

Students are not the only ones facing challenges—so too is each member of our community. The 2010–2011 budget is in place and I know that faculty, staff and students are dealing with many new realities, from larger classes, staff reductions, higher fees, and other difficulties particular to each unit, department and faculty. And, unfortunately, the signs are that next year will be no easier.

In the next few months, as the community discusses, deliberates and finalizes its new academic plan, the university's changed financial situation will mean putting some constraints on the academic strategies we outline and undertake in the next five years. That's the reality.

However, though strategies may be shifted—and timelines extended—the U of A's vision and mission remain a strong force bringing us together in common cause. In speaking with many of you across campus, I have often been told how much this sense of shared community and purpose adds to the rewards of working here even in, or especially in, challenging times.

As president, I have a critical role to play in the coming year as the U of A's strongest, most persistent advocate. Be assured that I will be advocating at every opportunity and in every possible venue—with government officials, with donors and with international partners. Yes, the U of A is facing tough financial choices, but we have also never been stronger in the quality of our faculty and staff, our teaching and research record, the facilities we've built and the students we attract.

It's my job to ensure that the U of A's partners know this and retain their well-placed confidence in us. We need their strong support into the future. In the coming months, you will find me doing all I can to secure and enhance the continued success of our university, faculty, staff and students.

surf city

While about 25 University of Alberta students a year become very familiar with the rural Ghanaian village of Atwima Apemanim, most U of A students will probably never set foot there. But a new website (http://apemanim.webs.com/) has opened the community up to all who click on its pages. Drawing on assistance from students participating in the Faculty of Education course, Global Citizenship Field Experience in Ghana, the website was launched under the direction of the course's local instructor, Kwasi Ansu-Kyeremeh, a professor at the University of Ghana and chief of Apemanim Village. Look at pictures of the village, check out the progress of the community health-planning services clinic and learn more about the region and the people who live there.

teaching & learning, learning & teaching

Math modeler sees work jump from journal pages

Michael Brown

When the SARS epidemic lashed Ontario in 2003, the medical establishment quickly recognized the country was unprepared to properly combat the outbreak and transmission of disease in Canada.

With a primary goal of strengthening Canada's capacity to protect and improve the health of its citizens and to help reduce pressures on the health-care system, the government created the Public Health Agency of Canada. Besides providing undisputed leadership in the fight against disease, this new unified health body did away with any previous notions about disease transmission and flung open its doors to innovation.

Among the groups eager to join the fight against epidemics were the country's mathematicians.

"It used to be we would grab [a medical] problem, put it into mathematics, make it into a very abstract problem, and solve it, just to [have it] tucked away in mathematical journals," said Michael Li, professor in the Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences. "But when the Public Health Agency of Canada was set up, it was open to a multidisciplinary approach to emergency preparedness."

With a particular interest in understanding the transmission dynamics of infectious diseases, in particular AIDS and tuberculosis, Li, who originally came to the U of A in 1988 as a PhD student, has watched his work gradually gain acceptance.

"[Policy makers] have past data as well as ideas about what they want to do, but they don't know what's going to happen or how well their policy is going to work out," said Li. "Math models allow you to set up your scenario and let it play out. A model can help administrators choose strategy. With the models, we are better prepared with them, than without."

> "In the past, I would teach and do research, but now I really think part of the whole package is learning rather than strictly classroom teaching and doing research."
>
> Michael Li

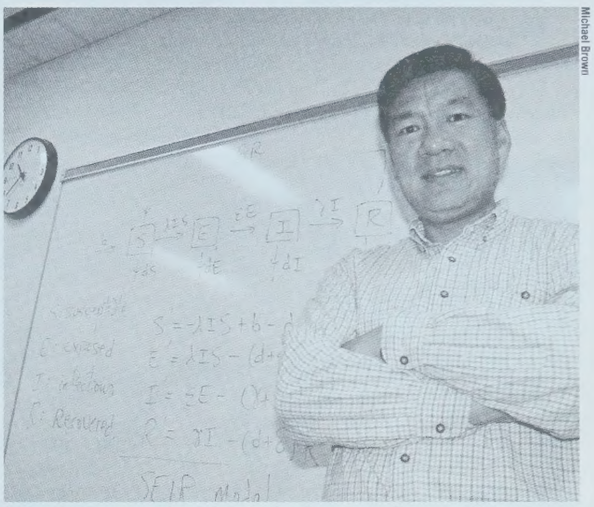
At about the same time math modeling was being accepted into new lab and boardroom settings in exciing and novel ways, Li says an ideological shift in the way students learn began on campus when Indira Samarasekera was named president of the U of A in 2005.

"There is a real promotion of a learning environment now," said Li. "In the past, I would teach and do research, but now I really think part of the whole package is learning rather than strictly classroom teaching and doing research.

"Students don't normally get to see what research looks like until it is very late in their education. Bringing research into the classroom is something students love, so that is something we will try to do."

Finding a niche mixing math and medicine, Li now works with the School of Public Health at the U of A on the spread of HIV and tuberculosis. A recipient of a 2010 McCalla Professorship—given to outstanding faculty members to provide them with an opportunity to explore and implement strategies integrating their research and teaching—Li will use his award to create a new interdisciplinary course, Mathematical Modelling in Public Health Sciences, for students from both math and public-health sciences.

"Through my experience working with the School of Public Health, I have found the hardest part is understanding each other," said Li. "At the end of the day, I'm not expecting my students to become public-health researchers, I just want them to understand the language of the other side, know their concerns, know what is significant and feel comfortable on the other side.



Michael Brown

Michael Li demonstrate the math model that shows how a disease would progress through a population.

"For public-health students, hopefully the course can help them understand the methodology of the modeling and what models can help them to do so that they would be inclined to collaborate with a modeler when they become a researcher."

Li will also use his time as a McCalla professor finishing off a book on disease dynamics and explore the extent to which math modeling is applicable across academia.

"We have realized the same kind of system of equations occurs all over other areas, from engineering to chemical kinetics and systems biology," he said.

As an example of this synergy, Li explained how he and a summer student were able to apply math modeling of disease dynamics to the engineering problem of how to get unmanned aerial robots to fly in formation.

"In engineering, whatever equation we can develop for one problem can be applicable to others. That is why we are pushing so hard for abstract thought."

Study shows aerobic fitness training trumps pedometer-based walking programs

Jane Hurly

What to do: walk around the block or work up a sweat in an aerobic workout at the gym? If you're looking for the best health benefits from an exercise program, University of Alberta researchers have found a traditional aerobic fitness program that gets your heart pumping beats a walking program hands down. But if you want to get moving, a walking program is easier to do, it's good for you, and you're more likely to stick with it.

Gordon Bell

Researchers compared fitness training to a pedometer-based walking program, measuring the fitness and health outcomes of each. Programs were designed so participants would expend the same amount of energy in each regimen.

For the six-month study, exercise physiologist Gordon Bell recruited 128 physically inactive men and women between 27 and 65 years of age with no known cardiovascular or other diseases. At the start of the study, volunteers were randomized into the control group, the walking group or the exercise group and all were required to wear a pedometer for the duration of the study to ensure that they stayed within the prescribed number of steps.

Comparing fitness and walking groups, Bell and his team found that after six months those in the supervised fitness program showed significantly greater reductions in their systolic blood pressure (about nine per cent versus three per cent); rating of perceived exertion, or effort measured during submaximal exercise (10 per cent versus no change); ventilatory threshold—the point at which respiratory changes occur and respiration begins to become increasingly difficult during progressive exercise (15 per cent versus four per cent); and peak VO2, a measurement of peak oxygen intake (nine per cent versus three per cent).

All told, Bell says all participants saw benefits. Walking and fitness training groups saw a significant reduction in body mass, waist circumference and waist-to-hip ratio after the six months, as well as resting heart rate. Surprisingly, the control group saw changes too and Bell says it's possible they were motivated to be more physically active after undergoing the health assessment at the start of the study, and having a pedometer, which may have made them more aware of how much or little they were physically active.

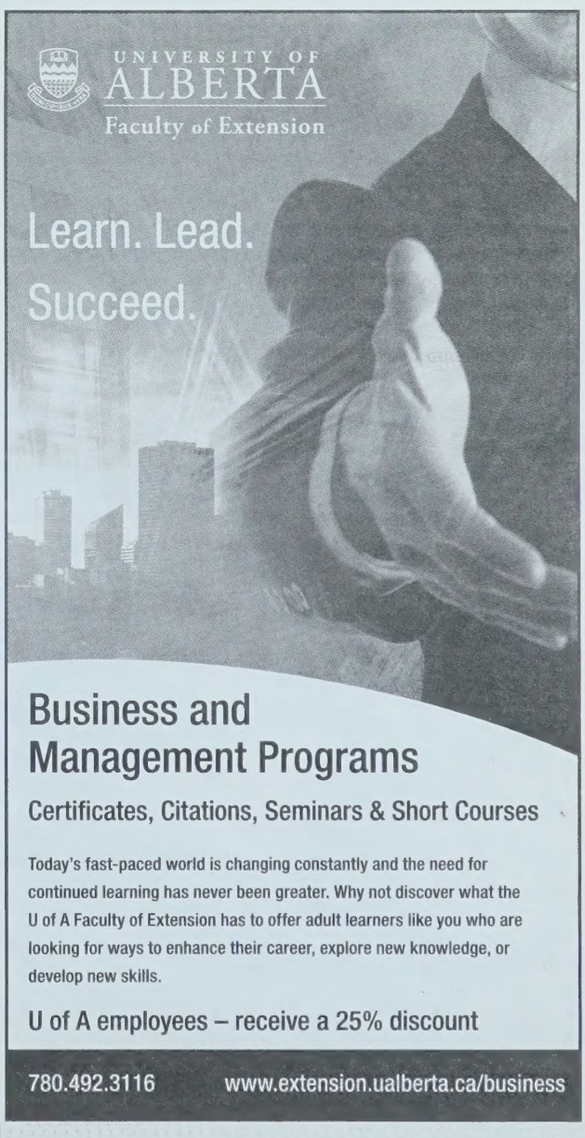
"The participants in the traditional fitness program improved their fitness-based response more than those in the walking program," says Bell. "The magnitude of that difference in improvement was very clear."

However, he says, it's not the type of exercise program for everyone. "Not everybody's going to be able to start in a traditional exercise program, such as those with certain health issues or type 2 diabetes, because of the higher intensity, duration and frequency of exercise training that is required.

"Lifestyle and pedometer-based fitness programs make it easier to get started, as long as there are no lower limb issues or one is not severely overweight. Most people have the ability to walk and walking-based programs are easy to prescribe and progressively overload, and get people walking far enough to begin to derive health benefits from it."

But, cautions Bell, "It's a long-term commitment. It seems that you need at least six months to get some health benefits from walking-based programs."

The study was published in the *Journal of Physical Activity and Health* and is part of the larger research study led by the principal investigator and exercise psychologist, Wendy Rodgers and colleagues Vicki Harber, Terra Murray and Kerry Courneya, examining how people felt about exercise and their reasons for adherence or non-adherence to an exercise program.



An extra 100 days of medicine protects kidney-transplant patients

Raquel Maurier

Kidney-transplant patients with no immunity to a deadly virus known as cytomegalovirus, or CMV, are typically put on a course of antiviral medication known as Valcyte for 100 days post-surgery.

But Atul Humar, a researcher with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta, has discovered that doubling the length of time on that medication to 200 days drops the CMV infection rates for high-risk patients significantly. The infection rates within one year post-surgery decreased by more than half, going from 36.8 per cent to 16.8 per cent.

supplied

Atul Humar has discovered that doubling the length of time kidney-transplant patients are on antiviral medication to 200 days drops infection rates for high-risk patients significantly.

The results of Humar's research were published in the *American Journal of Transplantation* in August. His study, which involved working with an international group of investigators and with the pharmaceutical industry, involved 326 patients at 65 centres in 13 countries around the world.

In August the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the increased length of drug treatment for high risk kidney transplant patients.

"It's an exciting finding," says Humar, who was the principle investigator in the study and is the director of transplant infectious diseases with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. "The better prevention strategies we have for patients, the better it is for them. We always want to prevent these infections as opposed to treating them as they arise."

Many adults already have immunity to CMV because they have been in contact with the virus at some point in their lives. But for those who have never been exposed to CMV and have no immunity to it, the disease is easy to contract, especially for people with suppressed immune systems who are on anti-rejection drugs.

During the first six months after a kidney transplant, more than one third of patients can become sick due to CMV, which can cause complications in various organs throughout the body.

Humar says the next step is to further improve prevention efforts in high-risk transplant patients to further decrease CMV infection rates. He is currently working in the lab to study immune responses to the virus.

"I want to see if we can predict who will be at risk. We want to check patients' immunity to the virus over time and refine our prevention strategies based on that."

U of A technology to unlock ancient data

Brian Murphy

The University of Alberta has new multi-million dollar technology that can analyze an ancient mineral sample and tell you how it was created, its chemical makeup and its potential commercial value. It can also analyze teeth from an animal and tell you about the environmental conditions it experienced.

Brian Murphy

The U of A's Cameca IMS-1280 ion probe is the centrepiece of the Canadian Centre for Isotopic Microanalysis.

The machine is an ion probe and this model, the Cameca IMS-1280, is the only one of its kind in Canada. It is also the centrepiece of the U of A's new Canadian Centre for Isotopic Microanalysis, which was officially opened Sept. 7.

The probe allows for the closest look possible into the atomic make up of material such as a rock sample or bone.

"The probe can capture a moment in time, possibly millions or billions of years ago when the molecular structure of a mineral was being formed," said Thomas Stachel, researcher and director of the centre.

The probe's powerful resolution gets down to a level of 10 microns, about one-tenth the width of a human hair.

The natural-resources industry will use the centre's equipment, including the ion probe, to capture new information about mineral and fossil-fuel formations, which will aid in extraction and development.

Stachel says geologists looking for diamonds in Canada's North are concerned with the carbon content in mineral samples and the new ion probe can pick out the exact carbon atoms they're looking for.

"Our machine determines what geological forces created the carbon and the period of time it took to form," said Stachel. "Knowing how and when a diamond was formed tells you a lot about its value."

Stachel explains that resource companies will use data from the centre to improve their chances of finding the most valuable diamond deposits. "Mineral revenue from the north is 98 or 99 per cent diamonds," said Stachel. "Keeping the costs and efficiency of exploration down is essential for keeping that Canadian industry alive."

In addition to natural-resource clients, the centre will carry out work in a variety of university disciplines. Stachel says biologists, for instance, can use the probe to learn a lot from an animal's tooth. Instead of grinding up a polar bear's tooth and analyzing its molecular content in bulk, a tiny slice of the tooth is put into the new probe. Stachel likens the process to analyzing the rings of a tree. "We can look at every single year in the life of that polar bear and analyze what it ate, where it lived and extrapolate the environmental conditions it experienced."

The centre is funded with approximately $14.8 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Alberta government—through the Alberta Science and Research Partnership Initiative—and the University of Alberta, through the Faculty of Science and the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

"The expertise and equipment required to conduct this kind of research now and into the future is highly specialized and expensive," says U of A President Indira Samarasekera. "The Canadian Centre for Isotopic Microanalysis will get to the answers and solutions we all need faster and more efficiently."

Amino acids get in on fight against infection

Quinn Phillips

Richard Lamb and his post-doctoral fellow, Virginie Mieulet, have discovered that an amino acid called arginine is helpful in letting the body know that it's being attacked by an infectious agent.

According to Lamb, a professor in the Department of Oncology, it is known that arginine is essential for the function of macrophages, the first cells to arrive at the site of infection, ones key in attracting more immune-fighting cells to the area.

In their study, Lamb and Mieulet presented arginine to calorie-restricted mice and found that the mice were better able to fight infection.

"This is a major work," said Lamb. "If [these findings] prove true in humans, it [could] show that one aspect of nutrition that is critical in fighting infection [is the presence of arginine in one's diet]."

Arginine is commonly found in red meats and other proteins.

It's still early in their work, but this discovery could have implications for the millions of people in developing nations that malnourished and prone to infection.

Arginine, the pair says, could also be looked at as the possible mechanism involved in chronic inflammation like arthritis. It could be that if you have too much arginine, it could cause the body to react as if it's in a constant state of being attacked.

The study, which is published in the August edition of journal *Science Signalling*, has taken the research group three years to complete. The pair actually started studying the pathway that regulates cell growth, but when they received results that led them to arginine they pursued that angle.

"I think this is how most good science progresses," said Lamb. "You get some interesting results and you start to have to think about what those results mean."

And they'll continue to look at what these specific findings mean, as the pair hope to understand further the role of arginine in the body.

"We are most interested in how a cell can sense arginine, or its deficiency in more mechanistic detail," said Lamb.

"We also want to design studies to evaluate whether our results hold true in humans."

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Augustana Campus celebrates 100 years

Christopher Thrall

This year marks the Centenary of Augustana campus, the vibrant University of Alberta campus located an hour southeast of Edmonton in the city of Camrose. With more than 1,000 students enrolled in arts, music, science, business economics, nursing and—for the first time this year—physiotherapy, Augustana has grown into an important part of the U of A's community.

The campus grew from humble roots. Originally Camrose Lutheran College, the then-secondary school's first steps took place in the summer of 1910. Central Alberta had been a destination for Norwegian immigrants from the American Midwest, as well as directly from Norway, since about 1890. In providing this community with secondary education, Lutherans from the U.S. repeated a process that was well established in places where the public system provided only primary education.

The college began its first academic year in the fall of 1911 and moved into its own building—Founders' Hall or "Old Main"—in October 1912. The government's act of incorporation in 1913 allowed the association to establish a school where students may obtain a liberal education in the arts and sciences.

The earliest of the college's calendar describes the general purpose of the school as giving "young men and women a higher education based on the Christian faith as taught in the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and to foster, encourage, and guard the Norwegian heritage and Christian life of its students." All Lutheran students took religious instruction; non-Lutheran students showing a good moral character were permitted to graduate so long as they attended services in the church to which they belonged.

Augustana's "Old Main," now known as Founder's Hall, upon completion in 1912.

Later, Chester Ronning, principal from 1927 to 1942 (and subsequently a famed Canadian diplomat), took "the education, growth and development of the whole person" as the central theme of CLC. The theme was rooted partly in the egalitarian Scandinavian folk-school movement, which envisioned a broadly educated society, and that goal has remained part of Augustana's ethos.

The college's evolution into an undergraduate liberal arts and sciences college was first discussed during the late 1930s, while Ronning was principal. For many, the college became a kind of preparatory school for the University of Alberta: first-year university courses were offered in 1959 and second-year courses came 10 years later under an affiliation agreement. The college gained full degree-granting status in 1984 and adopted the name Augustana in 1991. It became a campus of the U of A in 2004.

The Augustana Campus of today would astound those founders 100 years ago. The 40-acre green space in the heart of Camrose boasts a number of updated facilities, including physiology lab spaces, a Fitness Centre, and the brand new $34 million library and Student Forum, as well as access to a park system with over 180 kilometres of trails. Half of the students live in on-campus residence and partake of the all-you-can-eat cafeteria, which prides itself on preparing dishes made from local food.

"At our Centenary, Augustana has set a distinctive path as a U of A campus for the public good," says Dean Roger Epp. "We have inherited and renewed, for our times, a commitment to life-changing education: holistic, personal, rigorous, oriented to citizenship in the tradition of the liberal arts." This philosophy has allowed Augustana to find a proud place as the University of Alberta's smaller, rural campus and has fuelled its vision for the next hundred years.

Celebrating Augustana's Centenary

Sept. 15
Centenary kickoff party for Augustana students and staff

Sept. 21
Forum and library opening celebration

Oct. 3
Centennial golden alumni gathering, class of 1945 reunion

Jan. 29, 2011
Augustana Centennial round dance (Edmonton)

June 3–5, 2011
Centennial homecoming celebration

Visit Augustana's Centenary website at www.augustana.ualberta.ca/100/ for more events, updates and news about our celebrations.

Sustainability steals the show at president's picnic

Michael Brown

It's not very often that dinner guests insist on doing their own dishes, but such was the case at the most recent incarnation of the ever-sustainable President's Staff Appreciation Picnic Aug. 25.

In alignment with the University of Alberta's sustainability initiative, the Office of Sustainability, Buildings and Ground Services and Classic Fare Catering did everything in their power to minimize greenhouse emissions and waste, which included asking the 3,500 or so university staff in attendance to bring their own utensils and dishes.

"People attending the picnic were really trying to make an impact," said George Thomlison, manager with Building and Ground Services. "I bet 10 or 15 per cent brought their own containers this year. They came and got their food and the only things they were putting in the garbage can were the corn cob and the two little bamboo skewers."

Organizers of the festivities also provided 500 washable plastic plates and biodegradable plates, cups and utensils. There were also five recycling stations featuring an educational component. As well, bottled water was eliminated, printed materials used to promote the event were minimized as electronic invitations and door-prize tickets were utilized and all power needs were fulfilled using green electricity donated by Bullfrog Power.

In addition, just in case anything was overlooked, the Office of Sustainability purchased one tonne of gold standard carbon offsets to cover any remaining main emission sources.

"With the credits we basically had zero waste," said Thomlison.

All told, Thomlison says only 1.2 metric tonnes of organic waste was collected, about the same amount as last year, despite seeing upwards of 500 more people taking in the picnic this year. Thanks to an ongoing agreement with the City of Edmonton, every tonne of organics the university collected from the picnic will be returned to campus as a tonne of compost. Those compostable materials will be added to the 100 tonnes of compost already in use on campus, which Thomlison says was collected from Lister Centre and SUB over the last year and mixed into campus shrubs and flowerbeds.

"There have been some significant advances with organic recycling on campus, with both the Students' Union building and Lister Centre providing opportunities for staff and students to recycle organics. Both these groups have done a great job of incorporating organic recycling into their operations," said Thomlison. "I think everyone understands that if we all do a little tiny bit we can make a big change."

And while U of A President Indira Samarasekera says the main reason for the picnic is that it is the one time of year that she gets to thank staff for everything they do, she was impressed to see everyone take sustainability so seriously.

"I was proud to see that so many of our staff demonstrated their commitment to sustainability by bringing their own cutlery and plates to help ensure that the picnic was waste-free and carbon neutral," she said. "This kind of commitment from our staff is part of what makes the U of A so great."

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The recycling centres set up at the President's Staff Appreciation Picnic were one of the day's big attractions.

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Physical therapist finds herself happily back where she started

Ken Mathewson

staff spotlight

Who says you can't go home again? Su Ling Chong seems to have managed just fine.

A former student of the physical therapy program at the University of Alberta, Chong is now putting her education to use in the very same place that she acquired it, and by the sounds of things, that's just fine with her.

"This place has really spoiled me," says Chong. "Once you get into a university setting, it's tough to go back. I'd be hard pressed to leave here."

After graduating in 1993, Chong spent almost four years working in long-term care. Despite her fondness for the work and her patients, once she spotted a job posting with her alma mater, she was quick to respond. Now, 13 years later, she still works closely with her patients, only now—instead of simply providing them with physical therapy—she's helping to design technology to increase their mobility.

"It's different work, for sure," said Chong. "In the clinics and the hospitals you tend not to bring your work home with you, but with research, it's constantly on your mind."

As a member of Richard Stein's neurological rehabilitation team, Chong was instrumental in the development of the WalkAide orthotic device, which is currently in use by more than 1,000 people worldwide. The device uses electrical stimulation to assist patients who have lost partial control of their legs due to conditions or injuries affecting their central nervous system. To use one of Chong's favorite quotes on the subject, "Electrical signals speak the language of the nerve."

Her extensive knowledge and uninhibited enthusiasm indicate that Chong finds her work rewarding, but she cautions graduates who are considering following in her footsteps that her chosen career is not always predictable.

"It's definitely not a nine-to-five kind of job. When there are deadlines, we're here all day and night," said Chong. "But we're getting such great results that it would be a shame to delay putting the word out."

However, Chong maintains that the occasional shift in the schedule is a small price to pay for the rewards received by helping people regain their mobility.

"Most of our patients have had their condition for at least five years," said Chong, "so by the time we start to work with them they have often given up. I think that's why I like this position so much. You give people hope."

Hope isn't all she helps to give them. With studies showing a 50 per cent increase in walking speed over 12 months among patients using the WalkAide device, it would appear that she's also giving them results; results she modestly attributes to Stein and the rest of the rest of the development team.

"I have fabulous bosses, but it's a little intimidating to be surrounded by all these smart people," she laughs. "I'm not one of them. I'm just on the periphery."

Ken Mathewson

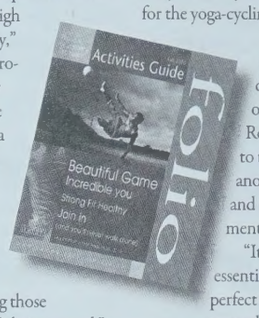
A former student of the U of A's physical therapy program, Su Ling Chong is now putting her education to use in the very same place that she acquired it.

It's not your grandmother's Campus Rec

Michael Brown

For those still haunted by the ghost of group fitness classes past, where curriculums were fashioned from the latest Sweating to the Oldies video tapes of the 1980s, the University of Alberta's Campus Rec promises to exercise those demons.

"The stigma of group fitness with the leotards and the high ponytails is going away," said Naissa Preston, program co-ordinator for group fitness. "We are trying to incorporate a larger segment of the population on campus. My version of all-inclusive doesn't mean middle of the road. My 'all-inclusive' is finding those populations that aren't being served."



The newest class is Zumba, a Latin-based dance cardio routine with no verbal cuing, which Preston says is less structured and more about having fun.

Campus Rec is, for the first time, offering what Preston is calling a "fusion" of fitness classes.

"I'm calling them integrated fitness because there is more than one format going on within one single session," she said. "The instructor has your attention for roughly an hour and 15 minutes and he or she will spend that in a spin situation, and the other half in hatha yoga, meditative Zen, stretch-it-out, functional fitness environment."

Besides cycling and yoga, the integrated fitness alternative can include virtually any combination of Pilates, dance, core-strength exercise and muscular strength classes.

"These new programs don't necessarily fit the group-fitness model, but I'm trying to attract some people who wouldn't normally do group fitness," said Preston. "If you don't like yoga that much but you think it is necessary and you love cycling, you might sign up for the yoga-cycling class."

Moreover, while all of these classes cater across all levels of fitness, Campus Rec is offering a class to take athleticism to another level—Postural and Movement Improvement.

"It is Pilates-based but is essentially postural training, perfect for golfers, racquet sport athletes, runners, any athletic types that need to improve their game, coming at it from a postural sense," said Preston. "The same idea goes for people who have been injured or have some sort of structural problem that is keeping them from being active."

Preston says all of the group-fitness classes—whether it is boot camp or belly dance—are about keeping the campus community healthy.

"It is important to put down your pens and laptops, and do something for yourself," she said. "It's more than fitness, it's about community-building. I'm hoping to build relationships.

"People need to better incorporate that wellness aspect into a healthy student or staff life."

Call for Consultation

By the Dean Selection Committee, Augustana Faculty

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Dr. Roger Epp's term as Dean will end June 30, 2011, and a Selection Committee has been established in accordance with University regulations to begin the search for a new Dean, Augustana Faculty and Executive Officer of Augustana Campus.

At this point, the Selection Committee is calling for opinion on the leadership needs of the Faculty in the years ahead and on any other key issues. Individuals are urged to contact members of the Committee, or write to me as Chair, to express their views on priorities of the Faculty, current issues, and the future direction of the Faculty. All feedback may be shared with the Selection Committee. In order to facilitate the Committee's work, **please submit your comments by Friday, October 15, 2010**.

In addition, individuals who wish to stand as a candidate are invited to apply. Individuals may also nominate others who they feel would be suitable candidates.

The selection of a Dean is vital to the success of the Faculty. I would therefore ask all interested persons, who have some stake in the outcome of this process, to take the time, even at this busy point in the academic year, to give some thought to the future of this Faculty. Your views are important to us. Thank you for your assistance.

Please forward your comments to the address below or to any member of the Dean Selection Committee (contact information at left).

Carl G. Amrhein
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Chair, Dean Selection Committee
2-10 University Hall
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB T6G 2J9
E-Mail: provost@ualberta.ca

Research shows special yoga improves breast-cancer recovery

Carmen Leibel

Treatment for breast cancer often leaves women in pain, immobilized and feeling tired and depressed. But Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation research fellow Amy Speed-Andrews has examined how a specialized Iyengar yoga program is helping breast cancer survivors stretch and breathe their way through recovery.

"People have done studies with yoga and breast cancer but they haven't specified what type of yoga they were doing so it's hard to replicate studies and build an evidence base for its benefits," she says.

The work began with doctoral fellow Clare Stevinson, who started the study before Speed-Andrews arrived at the U of A. Stevinson started data collection by asking participants to fill out a questionnaire at the beginning of a 12-week session of Iyengar yoga and again at the end.

"They were asked general health-related and disease-specific questions about symptoms from treatment, surgery and how that affects their quality of life. Then we looked at different psychosocial aspects like depression, anxiety and body image," said Speed-Andrews.

Speed-Andrews found that after the yoga, 94 per cent said they had improvements in their quality of life; 88 per cent felt better physically; 87 per cent reported being happier and 80 per cent were less tired. Other improvements were reported in body image and in decreased levels of stress, anxiety and depression.

She was encouraged by the results, adding, "This provides incentive for future, larger, randomized and controlled trials to examine in greater depth the benefit of yoga for breast cancer survivors."

Iyengar yoga instructor Judith Mirus designed the specialized program for breast cancer survivors in consultation with the daughter of yoga master BKS Iyengar. Mirus says seeing the women during their practice is proof it's making a difference. "Energy, balance, relaxation, I was surprised by how powerful that is for them. You can see that when you have them in the poses," said Mirus.

Mirus is a breast cancer survivor herself and says yoga helped get her through treatment.

"My control of quality of life and my control of my mental functioning—because you do get 'chemo brain' and your memory is affected—all that was much more manageable because I had something very concrete to use and that was yoga."

Speed-Andrews recently published a paper in the journal *Cancer Nursing*. She plans to add an additional component to her research once the next session of Iyengar yoga classes begin this September and wants to examine how Iyengar yoga effects on women's joints, upper body strength and balance.

"We're hoping to eventually extend the research by examining the benefits of the program for women with advanced breast cancer."

Study polls homeless as they access health care

Quinn Phillips

An emergency room physician wants to make visits by inner-city Edmontonians to the hospital a better experience.

After fielding complaints from inner-city clients about their emergency department experience at that hospital, Kathryn Dong, an emergency room physician at the hospital, decided to carry out a needs-assessment survey.

During a pilot survey carried out in June and July, emergency-room patients at the hospital were screened as they came through triage by being asked if they had a permanent place to live in the last 30 days and if they had any acute or chronic substance-use issues. If a patient was identified as living a high-risk lifestyle, he or she was asked to take part in a survey, which asked the patients basic questions about their demographics, current drug use and living situation. It then asked if there were any emergency-room needs the patient would like to have addressed.

"We've never actually systematically looked at this group in terms of satisfaction with care," said Dong. "We don't know how well we're meeting their needs or how satisfied they are with their care. I think this is huge in overcoming barriers to accessing care. This group has a lot of medical issues because of their lifestyles and they have the hardest time getting to the emergency department because they have other priorities like finding somewhere to stay that night and getting food."

In the end, Dong says her group, the Edmonton Inner City Health Research and Education Network, wants to know things like whether or not inner-city patients want more education materials about overdose or safe injection; if they want to be tested for sexually transmitted diseases; and if they want help with their housing issues. Dong also wants to determine if the emergency department should be become more of a "one-stop shop."

"Our target population is very interested in completing the survey," said Dong. "They're thrilled that they're being asked for their opinion and we've had a very positive response from the community about this."

Dong, her fellow physicians and researchers from the University of Alberta just finished the pilot project and will now begin collecting data. The group wants to survey about 500 people. It's expected to take a year to collect and analyze the data.

"We want to make sure we know what the community needs before we spend a lot of time and money putting in place something that I think they would want," said Dong.

Canada's Children's Fitness Tax Credit benefits wealthier families

Jane Hurly

When it comes to who gets the biggest bang from Canada's much-touted Children's Fitness Tax Credit—a program designed to spur more kids' involvement in physical activity programs by offsetting the cost of registering in them—wealthier families are the clear winners, behavioural scientist John Spence has found.

This is the first study to take a critical look at the uptake and effectiveness of the tax credit to increase physical activity levels of children.

Spence and his research team in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation at the University of Alberta conducted an Internet-based panel survey in March of 2009 with more than 2,000 Canadians taking part. Of those, 1,004 were parents of children aged two to 18. Participants completed a brief demographic survey and were asked if their child was involved in an organized physical activity program, what the costs were to register for the program, whether they were aware of the fitness tax credit, if they'd claimed for it in the 2007 tax year and whether they planned to claim for it the next year.

Among parents, 54.4 per cent said their child was enrolled in an organized physical activity program; 55.5 per cent were aware of the program; 26.1 per cent made claims for the tax credit in 2007, and 33.1 per cent planned to do so in 2008.

Overall, only 15.6 per cent reported that it had increased their children's participation in physical activity programs; however, lower-income families used the tax credit less than wealthier families because they couldn't afford the registration fees for physical activity programs to begin with.

> "It's not only the cost of registration that's a barrier for low income families, it's income level too."
>
> John Spence

However, though fewer low-income parents used the program, 37 per cent of those who did said their child was more active because of the tax credit, opposed to just 10 per cent of more affluent families.

"In wealthier families, their child is already registered in programs and they're just taking advantage of the credit," said Spence. "Whereas it seems that with some of the low-income families that could be a determining factor whether their child is going to be registered in any organized program or not."

It's not only the cost of registration that's a barrier for low income families, it's income level too, says Spence. He says population health research clearly shows that children from low-income families are less likely to be enrolled in physical activity programs than those from wealthier families and an equitable mechanism must be put in place to ensure that low-income families benefit too.

"One way is for the federal government to partner with organizations that offer sport and activity programs for low-income families and subsidize them, or allow them to claim the tax credit for the number of children they support.

"Another approach might be for the government to use the money that is not being refunded to low-income families who are not claiming the tax credit, because they don't qualify for it, to subsidize engagement in physical activity," he says.

With the maximum tax credit allowing just $75 per child, Spence says the impact isn't significant. "But if we took $75 per child, pooled what the federal government is currently spending on the tax credit and targeted that at, for instance, children in rural areas, Aboriginal children, those in low-income urban settings and others in need, we may be able to have a little more impact."

Spence will continue his research around the tax credit and low-income families and include families with children with disabilities. "We have no idea if these families are using the credit or not," he says.

Dietary researcher appointed Aboriginal health chair

Raquel Maurier

A renowned researcher who has focused her life's work on improving the health and nutrition of Indigenous populations and other ethnic groups is the new chair of Aboriginal health and professor in global and Aboriginal health in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry.

Sangita (Gita) Sharma, a nutritional epidemiologist, has spent her career working with various ethnic populations in Brazil, urban and rural Cameroon, Barbados, Trinidad, Indonesia, Jamaica, the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada. On each project, her goal was to improve diet and overall health for those populations, taking note that different ethnic groups may be more genetically predisposed to various conditions and diseases.

"Our genetics and ethnic background can load the gun when it comes to being predisposed to various diseases, but it is nutrition that pulls the trigger," explains Sharma.

Sangita (Gita) Sharma

Sharma helped set up a program in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories called Healthy Foods North, where she worked with local Inuit and Inuvialuit, retailers, community groups and government to bring in healthier food at a reasonable cost.

When Sharma was researching the diet of Aboriginal groups in Africa, she ate traditional meat dishes and lived in the bush so she could understand first-hand how tprepared their food.

As the chair in Aboriginal health, Sharma's long-term goal is to set up a Centre of Excellence in Aboriginal and Global Health through the faculty. The centre will focus on implementing ideas brought forth from a new Canadian Aboriginal Wellness Network that she is in the midst of setting up. The network will bring Aboriginal communities and organizations, government, business and universities together to work towards a common goal—improving Aboriginal health.

"I would like to see this centre become the go-to place for issues related to Aboriginal health," said Sharma. "I think Aboriginal health is an important concern and one that often doesn't get the attention it deserves."

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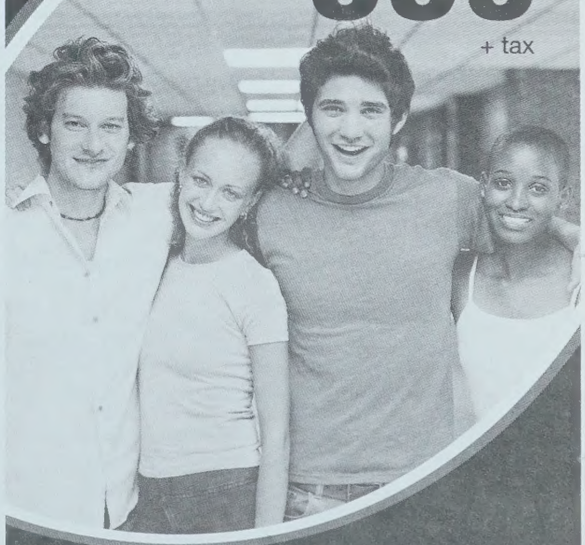

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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Two Panda athletes lift to new heights

Pandas ice hockey forward Jennifer Jubb, as well as former Pandas field hockey player and coach A.J. Facendi, lifted themselves to record-breaking status on July 31, when they both created new international records with the 100 per cent RAW Powerlifting Federation.

At the Western Canadian Powerlifting & Bench National Championships in Calgary, Jubb, a fifth-year skater for the University of Alberta Pandas, established records in all four categories in the 20–24 age division for the 75-kilogram weight class. Jubb, a Red Deer native, achieved a squat lift of 90 kg, a bench press lift of 52.5 kg, a deadlift of 135 kg and a total combined weight of 275 kg.

The accomplishments have qualified Jubb for the World Powerlifting Championships that take place in early October in Las Vegas, but as a member of the defending CIS women's hockey champions, she plans to return her focus to the colder confines of Clare Drake Arena as she enters her final season.

Facendi, who spent last season as the interim head coach of the Pandas field hockey team, created three records in the newly-adopted 25–29 division of the 52-kg weight class at the championships in late July. The Penticton, B.C. native moved 52.5 kg in a bench press lift, 122.5 kg in a deadlift and a total of 265 kg. Facendi's efforts earned her Best Female Lifter honours for the competition, and qualified her for the championships in Las Vegas.

Researchers find breast cancer survivors need not fear flight

Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine researcher Margie McNeely says results from an international study she was part of indicate that certain precautions about the risk of lymphedema for breast cancer survivors are outdated.

A study McNeely conducted in conjuction with an Australian research team, shows that the risk of developing lymphedema—a chronic swelling in the arm—caused by changes in cabin pressure during a flight is very low.

The caution about the lymphedema risk is aimed at women who have had lymph nodes removed from the armpit, a common procedure during cancer treatment. McNeely says because the lymphatic system helps drain fluid, when the nodes are removed there is the potential for chronic swelling.

McNeely studied the effect of air travel on 60 Canadian breast cancer survivors who were flying to Australia for an International Dragon Boat Festival. Seventeen of these women were from Edmonton. Findings indicate that 95 per cent of the women had no arm swelling.

McNeely says this study was done with a group of women who participate in regular physical activity. She hopes to do future research with breast cancer survivors from the general population.

"What we don't know is whether the findings will hold true for all of the women who had breast cancer," said McNeely. "It may be that just these women who are really active were fine with air travel. That's one question that we have."

Federal funding for engineering spinoff company

Intelligent Nano, a spinoff company formed in the Faculty of Engineering, was awarded $257,000 from the federal Industrial Research Assistance Program Aug. 18. The company is at the leading edge of nanotechnology, medicine and clean energy, applying its low-frequency ultrasound technology to everything from stem cells to biofuels.

Intelligent Nano is involved in biomedical engineering using its SonaCell technology to enhance the growth of stem cells. Stem cells are early-stage cells that can still develop into any type of cell. Intelligent Nano uses low-intensity pulsed ultrasound to "massage" thawed stem cells, improving their yield and growth.

"We can take blood from the umbilical cord and stimulate it so that more stem cells develop—then you can inject it into a patient," said Chen.

The company uses the same technology to stimulate microorganisms such as yeast and fungi, and has developed several small-scale bio-fermentation devices to enhance the production of biofuels.

Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship Program accepting applications

In an effort to encourage further domestic contributions to scientific research, University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera welcomed Mike Lake, member of parliament for Edmonton-Mill Woods-Beaumont, to campus Aug. 19 to announce that a fellowship program named in Sir Fedrcik Banting's honour is officially accepting applications from post-doctoral researchers worldwide.

The $45-million initiative is designed to not only attract foreign talent to Canadian institutions, but also to ensure their economic constancy as well. The introduction of the Banting fellowships should go a long way towards easing that burden. With 70 annual fellowships to be awarded, at a value of $140,000 each over two years, research careers are suddenly looking like a viable option to many graduates who previously lacked the means, said Samarasekera.

"The Banting Fellowship Program will provide critical support for top international talents as they graduate with their doctoral degrees and begin the process of establishing their research programs and careers," she said. "Investing in Canada's and the world's best young talent today will pay untold dividends in the future."

For more information go to www.banting.fellowships-bourses.gc.ca.

Mussel gets foot in health care's door

Brian Murphy

Mussels' bothersome behaviour of clinging in huge numbers to just about any surface may actually be able to serve a purpose in human health care.

Hongbo Zeng, a chemical and materials engineering researcher, is taking a close look at the adhesion process of the mussel's foot, the body part it uses to attach itself to an underwater surface.

Mussels have been known to latch onto the hulls of ships in such great numbers that they slow the speed of the vessel. In fact, some Canadian municipalities have declared war on mussels because they establish colonies that clog water intake pipes.

"It's their ability to attach to surfaces underwater that makes the chemistry of mussels a possible breakthrough for use for bio-medical applications," said Zeng. He explains that an adhesive that mimics the protein action on the surface of the mussel's foot could produce a naturally biodegradable glue to replace stitches for minor cuts and could be used by surgeons on internal organs.

Zeng's mussel research could also lead to super-glue for industrial use in a saltwater environment. "The cuticle of the mussel's foot has a self-healing chemical process through the interactions between metal ions and proteins," said Zeng.

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It's not easy being green in the 'burbs

Bev Betkowski

Environmentally conscious families have a tougher time living a sustainable lifestyle if they make their homes in the suburbs, a University of Alberta study shows.

The study compared environmental practices between two sample Edmonton neighbourhoods and found that interested families in the newer suburban area had the same willingness, but less opportunity, to live a greener lifestyle.

Huddart, a PhD student of rural economy at the U of A, compared the suburban south-side neighbourhood of Terwillegar Towne with the older, more central community of Mill Creek. After surveying environmentally engaged families in both communities, she discovered that those living in the Mill Creek neighbourhood were more able to follow environmentally sound practices, such as not owning a vehicle, growing most of their own food and using renewable energy. This was because their neighbours lived similarly and as a result of stronger social networks, were able to share vehicles and ideas about saving energy, as well as make cultural shifts, such as walking to stores or biking to work.

Supplied

Emily Huddart has found that there is less opportunity to be sustainable in the suburbs.

People living in Terwillegar Towne were more isolated from like-minded families, and as a result, practiced sustainability on a smaller scale, by buying organic products or recycling household waste.

People in both neighbourhoods use vehicles as their primary modes of transportation, but 42 per cent of Mill Creek residents surveyed also used other methods, compared to 11 per cent of people in Terwillegar Towne.

The findings illustrate a need for municipalities to design new neighbourhoods in ways that will encourage more sustainable living, said Huddart.

"This can range from preserving natural areas, to installing rain barrels, to ensuring public transit and bike trails are in place before developing a community," she said.

The study also showed that the suburbs were home to more people who had little interest in sustainable practices and chose their neighbourhood for its larger, yet affordable houses and low crime rate. Those living in Mill Creek were found to identify more with environmental causes and lower material consumption.

"If municipalities install infrastructure for more sustainable living, suburban families may be more willing to take on more intensive environmental practices," Huddart said.

Her study recommends several policies for the City of Edmonton and other municipal governments including avoidance of cul-de-sac layouts, which encourage vehicle use; education of suburban residents about a large community garden opened by the City of Edmonton; encourage car-sharing; and adding commercial space to residential areas to encourage small businesses and farmer's markets.

"The type of community we live in plays a key role in enabling us to lead rich, sustainable lives. If municipalities keep this in mind when planning new developments, and citizens have a common vision for sustainability in their neighbourhoods, then we can have rewarding urban lifestyles."

laurels

Janusz Zwiazek, professor in the Department of Renewable Resources, received the prestigious Scientific Achievement Award at the XXIII World Congress of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations in Seoul, South Korea, at the end of August. A tree physiologist, Zwiazek researches effects of pollution and other environmental stresses on function and structure of trees.

Geneviève Gauthier has been named associate director of the Centre for Teaching and Learning. Gauthier's research investigates how assessment can be used to diagnose and support learners in developing and fostering life-long learning skills and competencies. In addition to her role as associate director, Gauthier will teach in the Department of Educational Psychology.

Peter Light, professor of pharmacology, has been selected as the director of the Alberta Diabetes Institute, and is the recipient of the Charles A. Allard Chair in Diabetes Research.

Former U of A chancellor **Eric Newell** has been inducted into the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame.

Karim Jamal, professor in the Alberta School of Business, has received the Haim Falk Award for Distinguished Contribution to Accounting Thought from the Canadian Academic Accounting Association.

Jeff Bisanz, professor in the Department of Psychology, was awarded the inaugural Pickering Award for his contributions to developmental psychology in Canada at the Development 2010 Conference.

Onookome Okome, professor in the Department of English and Film Studies, has received a Humboldt Research Award from the Alexander von Humbolt Foundation. These research awards allow scholars to work on their chosen research project in Germany.

Ernie Ingles, long-time chief librarian, has been named director of the School of Library and Information Studies for the U of A.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Sept. 30

Observe the stars in September. Visit the U of A's astronomical observatory every Thursday evening in September from 9–10 p.m. All members of the public are welcome and admission is free. Please see our website for details on how to find the observatory. 9–10 p.m. Fine Arts Building.

Sept. 10, 13–17

Brazil Week 2010
www.arts.ualberta.ca/~spanport/brazilweek2010.html

Sept. 10

Brazil Week 2010 – Samba de Enredo by Escola de Samba de Edmonton. The Edmonton Samba School will be performing "Samba de Enredo" in the tradition of samba schools in Brazil. Samba de Enredo is the rhythm that propels the annual Carnival celebrations in Rio de Janeiro. 4–5:15 p.m. In front of Arts Building.

Sept. 13

"My Brazil." This documentary film by Daniela Broitman shows community leaders from the slums of Rio de Janeiro putting their lives at risk to fight for basic services and journey to the Fifth World Social Forum. Featuring Lula, Hugo Chávez, Gilberto Gil, Eduardo Galeano, Frei Betto and Leonardo Boff. 4–6 p.m. Alberta School of Business, room 3–6.

Sept. 14

Ukrainians in Brazil. This lecture by Andriy Nahachewsky, professor of Ukrainian folklore , will talk of how 400,000 people of Ukrainian descent live in Brazil, most of them in the southern state of Paraná, a region known as "Brazilian Ukraine." 4–6 p.m. Senate Chamber Arts and Convocation Hall.

Sept. 10 & 11

Envisioning Science: Imaging the Body. Envisioning Science: Imaging the Body is an interdisciplinary workshop to examine how we see, how we are able, allowed, or made to see and how we see this seeing or the unseen therein. The workshop begins on Sept. 10 with a keynote address by Lise Cartwright, professor at the University of California-San Diego, entitled, "Critical Art Practice in the Age of Biological Citizenship. 7 p.m. 2-20 Fine Arts Building Gallery.

Sept. 11

SHINE Clinic's Annual Kick-off BBQ. SHINE (Student Health Initiative for the Needs of Edmonton) is a health clinic run entirely by U of A students. It offers a variety of free services and resources to anybody under 25. The BBQ gives you a chance to learn more about what SHINE is all about, get a tour of the clinic and meet current volunteers. There will be free burgers, hot dogs, juice, coffee and more-everyone is welcome. Noon–4 p.m. at the Boyle McCauley Health Centre 10628 – 96 St.

Sept. 12

Panda's Hockey vs SAIT Trojans. 2 p.m. Clare Drake Arena. For a full schedule of Golden Bear and Panda athletics go to www.bears.ualberta.ca

Sept. 14

Mini Medical School. Running every Tuesday for eight weeks, the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry is presenting this lecture series on topics from dentistry and surgery to nutrition and acupuncture. 7–9 p.m. Bernard Snell Hall. Go to www.cpl.ualberta.ca/home/events/mini.cfm to register.

Sept. 15

SEE the research at work seminar series: Solar Energy. Jillian Buriak, professor in the Department of Chemistry, will give a talk about the greatest challenge facing humanity is the search for reliable—clean and scalable sources of energy. In this talk, Buriak will describe the energy horizon of solar, nuclear, legacy and other non-renewable as an introduction into research ongoing at the U of A and the National Institute for Nanotechnology into solar energy. Noon–1:30 p.m. Stollery Executive Development Centre, Alberta School of Business.

Non-wives and their networks in medieval Tamilnadu, India. The Department of History and Classics, co-sponsored by Women's Studies, presents "Non-Wives and their networks in medieval Tamil," by Leslie Orr, professor of religion, specializing in South Indian Tamil studies, Concordia University, Montreal. 3–5 p.m. Room 326 (Senate Chamber) Arts and Convocation Hall.

Sept. 16

Hindu Temples: Antiquity, Aesthetics and Conflict. The Department of History and Classics presents "Hindu Temples: Antiquity, Aesthetics and Conflict," by Leslie Orr, professor of religion, specializing in South Indian Tamil studies, Concordia University, Montreal. 5–7 p.m. 1-5 Alberta School of Business.

Sept. 21

What's in a name: Why learning teamwork is as important for nurses as doctors. Suzanne Gordon, author, lecturer, patient advocate and co-editor of "The Culture and Politics of Health Care Work Series," will be on hand to talk about the need for increased team communication between the health-care professions. Noon–1:30 p.m. Maple Leaf Room, Lister Centre.

Sept. 22–26

Alumni Weekend 2010. Four days of receptions, reunions, lectures, tours and other events for all alumni. Hosted by the Alumni Association and U of A faculties. For more go to www.ualberta.ca/alumni/reunion.

Sept. 23

Les enjeux de la francophonie. This conference will be presented by Jean-Michel Lacroix, professor of North-American civilization at l'Université Paris III /Sorbonne Nouvelle and president of Association française d'études canadiennes. 7:30 p.m. Grand Salon Pavillon Lacerte.

Sept. 24

Campus Sustainability Tour. Take a tour of North Campus to find out where and how the university is creating a sustainable campus. From students to faculty and staff to the wider community, everyone's welcome to join the free 1.5 hour walking tour. Spaces are limited. Please RSVP to secure your spot. It runs rain or shine. 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. 559 General Services Building.

Department of Economics Micro Seminar. Alberto Galasso, professor at the University of Toronto, will give a talk entitled "CEO Overconfidence and Innovation." 3:30 p.m. 8-22 Tory.

Sept. 24

Celebration of Teaching and Learning. Each September, the U of A honours the achievements of our faculty, students and staff at the Celebration of Teaching and Learning. This year we will celebrate more than 300 exemplary individuals: faculty who bring their research to life in the classroom; graduate and undergraduate students who have distinguished themselves for outstanding academic work; and staff that support learning. 4:30–6:30 p.m. Aberhart Centre.

Stephen Lewis Keynote Address. Stephen Lewis, author of "Race Against Time" and chair of the Stephen Lewis Foundation—which is dedicated to turning the tide of HIV/AIDS in Africa—will be giving a presentation after a wine and cheese reception as part of the Alberta Council for Global Co-operation's Annual General Meeting. This event will showcase the incredible work being done by many Alberta-based organizations. 6–10 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

Sept. 25

Putting Economics back in the Home – The Failure of the Financial Industry in Teaching Canadians how to Handle their Money. This discussion will talk about the failure of the financial industry in providing money-management education for Canadians. Register by Sept. 20. 10 a.m.–noon. 301 Human Ecology Building.

Reinvigorating Democracy in Canada: Three Perspectives. With voter turnout declining and regard for politicians plummeting, there is a growing sense that something has to be done to get democracy in Canada back on track. Panelists include Ricardo Acuña of the Parkland Institute, Satya Das, award-winning journalist and founder of Cambridge Strategies and Kim Krushell, Edmonton City Councillor. 12:30–2 p.m. Myer Horowitz Theatre, Students' Union Building.

Sept. 25

5th Annual Hurtig Lecture on the Future of Canada – Featuring Mary Simon. Mary Simon, national leader of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Order of Canada recipient, will deliver the Fifth Annual Hurtig Lecture. Simon's distinguished career has been devoted to advancing Aboriginal rights and achieving social justice for Inuit and other Aboriginal peoples nationally and internationally. Simon argues that "for the lessons of history to have enduring value, awareness of past injustice must inspire determination to correct current injustice." Canada's future, Simon contends, will be measured "by how the Aboriginal peoples of this country are faring." Admission is $10 per person. Register online at www.ualberta.ca/alumni/weekend. 2:30–4 p.m. at Myer Horowitz Theatre, Students' Union Building.

Michael Holly | Creative Services

Could not have done it without you

Fun, food and sustainability were in abundance at the President's Staff Appreciation Picnic Aug. 25.

Fern Snart, dean of the Faculty of Education, serves customers.

Indira Samarasekera, U of A president, shares a laugh with Russell Eccles, NASA president.

the BackPage

KEVAN WARNER
UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
108 BARD

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 2
The search for truth
Festival of Ideas set for Nov. 17–21

Page 3
Celebration of Teaching and Learning
Staffers honoured for support of student learning

Page 4
University 101
Everything you wanted to know about the U of A

Volume 48 Issue 2 | September 24, 2010 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Royal Society of Canada elects three U of A researchers

Folio Staff

Three University of Alberta researchers have been admitted into the Royal Society of Canada.

The new RSC fellows were elected to the society earlier this month by their peers in recognition of outstanding scholarly and scientific achievement.

"The university is delighted that Paul Armstrong, David Brindley and Chris Le have been selected as fellows of the Royal Society of Canada," said Lorne Babiuk, U of A vice-president, research. "They are excellent examples of the calibre of scholars at our institution, and they join the increasing number of fellows from the University of Alberta. We congratulate them on this national recognition of the contributions they have made to their disciplines."

"Excellence and accomplishment in the arts, humanities and sciences is a touchstone of vibrant and successful societies," said Roderick Macdonald, president of the society. "These new fellows honour our country by their talents and achievements. Election to the Royal Society acknowledges their contributions by reciprocally honouring them."

Chris Le develops highly sensitive techniques and assays that enable studies of human exposure to environmental toxicants and clinical therapeutics. His work has resulted in better detection of toxic contaminants and greater understanding of their health effects, providing scientific basis for health protection.

Paul Armstrong is an internationally recognized investigative cardiologist whose creative work, along with that of his colleagues, has substantially improved the care and outcomes of heart-attack patients. He has had a lifelong commitment to the education and training of health-care professionals, and his mentorship of trainees and faculty has been a widely recognized key signature of his career.

continued on page 2

Two careers dedicated to inspiration honoured at the CTL

Carmen Leibel

When asked about how he felt about being awarded with one of the University of Alberta's highest teaching honours, Lorne Tyrrell said, "I think that my veins sort of bleed green and gold."

Tyrrell and Gary Lopaschuk, both accomplished teachers, researchers and leaders in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, are being honoured with this year's title of Distinguished University Professor at the U of A's 15th annual Celebration of Teaching and Learning Sept. 24.

CELEBRATION OF TEACHING & LEARNING

Lopaschuk shares Tyrrell's passion for teaching, and is gratified to see the students acquiring knowledge and developing their thought processes.

"My style is very much treating the student with respect and to not to be condescending; making sure they understand what you're actually teaching."

Lopaschuk works in both the Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Pharmacology. He says the students have been the most important part of the research process, as they have helped him make huge strides in the fight against heart disease.

"They're crucial in providing some of the initial ideas of what experiments and what approach we use, but they're also critical in performing the research."

Lopaschuk feels honoured to be recognized by his peers with this award and says he has felt a great sense of pride during the past 25 years teaching at the U of A.

"It's recognition by your institution of some of your accomplishments, and I have looked at a number of past awardees—including my co-awardee—and am honoured to be in the same company."

Tyrrell says this award means a lot to him, as he has given almost 50 years of his academic life to the U of A, a journey that began in 1961 when he was a young and eager chemistry student. Today he holds the Canadian Institutes of Health Research/ GlaxoSmithKline Chair in virology in the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology and teaches students who share his thirst for knowledge. He is also the founding director of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology.

"When you're surrounded by young people who are enthusiastic and interested in the work, it gives you energy and enthusiasm for your work yourself."

Tyrrell says a career highlight in 1986, when he discovered how to develop the world's first antiviral therapy for hepatitis B, would not have been possible without the hard work of the trainees who put in countless hours in his lab. The product of that work, the first oral antiviral agent for the hepatitis B virus, is now being used in more than 200 countries.

Lorne Tyrrell

Gary Lopaschuk

"For each one of the key discoveries made in the laboratory, I can identify a student, a post-doctoral fellow, or a colleague that has contributed to pivotal or critical observations that helped in crystallizing that discovery."

Studio Theatre presents *Eurydice*

Michael Brown

Studio Theatre's newest play "Eurydice," which is a retelling of the Greek tragedy Orpheus through the eyes of the Greek legend's wife, will be playing at the Timms Centre for the Arts from Sept. 23 to Oct. 2. More on page 10.

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folio

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

The University of Alberta maintains a database of all alumni. This database is used to send you news about the U of A, including folio and *New Trail*, invitations to special events and requests for support. On Sept. 1, 1999, post-secondary institutions were required to comply with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation of the province of Alberta. In accordance with this legislation, please respond to one of the following options:

- ❑ Please keep my name, or
- ❑ Remove my name from the folio list.

Name _____
Signature _____
No response means the University of Alberta assumes an individual wishes to remain on the mailing list.

U of A launches 2010 Festival of Ideas

Michael Brown

It was in 1912 that the University of Alberta's first president, Henry Marshall Tory, and his fellow professors decided on the university's motto, quaecumque vera, "whatsoever things are true."

If that pursuit was challenging a century ago, in this day of social media and idea exchange, finding, compiling and interpreting what is the truth has become almost unimaginable.

Where does the truth lie and who can we trust to find it? Difficult questions, but as Tory once said, "every man owes to the generation to which he lives the last full measure of devotion to whatsoever things are true."

That devotion to finding truth is the theme for the university's Festival of Ideas 2010, "Truth and Lies: Trust Me."

"We see the Festival of Ideas as probably the highest profile event the city receives from the university towards the intellectual life of the city," said U of A Provost Carl Amrhein at the Festival of Ideas launch Sept. 14. "It's about scholarship, learning and discovery. It's about bringing people to the city to engage in our many communities, including our faculty, staff and students. It's about encouraging debate, discussion and deep thinking on a range of issues that we jointly care deeply about."

Following the overwhelming success of Festival of Ideas 2008, the U of A has announced that Festival of Ideas 2010, held Nov. 17 to 21, will again bring an international community of performers, writers, visual artists, scientists and public intellectuals together in an exciting and invigorating series of events aimed at stimulating learning, discussion and dialogue.

Representing the Festival of Ideas partner, the City of Edmonton, at the launch was Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel, who spoke about the similar aspirations and fate the city and the university share, and how the Festival of Ideas will propel both entities forward.

"One of the goals of the city is the same as the university—to [have the university] become one of the top 20 publicly funded universities by 2020," said Mandel.

"It is vitally important that events like the Festival of Ideas continue to shape the relationship between the University of Alberta and city to promote ideas and thinking about the challenges of moving the city forward."

Mandel said he remembers the thrill in the audience during Salman Rushdie's talk given as part of the Festival of Ideas during the U of A's Centenary in 2008.

"Everybody was riveted to their seats. It was a remarkable evening; you could look around the room and nobody was even blinking it was so spectacular," he said. "The list of people who are coming to this Festival of Ideas will be equally challenging, equally interesting and equally engaging."

Highlighting this year's festival are Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jared Diamond, who will explore how societies choose to collapse or thrive; Father José Funes, director of the Vatican Observatory, who will examine why science and religion must co-exist; writers Ayaan Hirsi Ali and Mende Nazar, who will share their experiences in the struggle for human rights, democracy, dignity and freedom; and Nicaraguan priest and poet Ernesto Cardenal, who will be joined by Nobel Prize for Literature winners Orhan Pamuk and Derek Walcott for a night of conversation and readings.

Representing the festival's founding sponsor, Capital Power Corporation, at the launch was Martin Kennedy, the corporation's vice-president, external and investor relations. Kennedy said the ultimate goals of the Festival of Ideas fit precisely with the corporation's goals of community engagement and thought leadership, confirmed its support through the 2012 and 2014 editions of the Festival of Ideas.

> **"We see the Festival of Ideas as probably the highest profile event the city receives from the university towards the intellectual life of the city."**
>
> Carl Amrhein

"The goals of the festival—to debate issues, hear different points of view, encourage discussion and search for answers to complex issues—are just as vital to the success of our company as they are key to this festival," said Kennedy. "It's that kind of process—challenging traditional ways to doing things—that we want to continue to foster because that's what sets us apart."

Debra Pozega Osburn, U of A vice-president, External Relations, says sponsorship of the event is paramount in enabling organizers to bring some of the world's most interesting and provocative thinkers, writers, artists, and scientists together at the festival. "This festival would not be possible without our community partners and corporate sponsors who believe strongly in this event.

"We extend our heartfelt thanks for their commitment in making this year's festival possible." ■

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta theoretical physicist Don Page spends a lot of his time pondering the "what if" questions of science. While experimental physicists put their queries to the test in the laboratory, Page is asking questions that are often too big for a lab and would be very hard to visualize.

"When we study black holes we have to theorize, because we have no way of actually making a black hole," said Page. "We use our minds, chalk boards and computers in place of laboratory equipment."

For 50 years the U of A's Theoretical Physics Institute has been asking big questions about what Page describes as the most fundamental aspects of nature. "The more questions we ask about the laws of nature," said Page, "the better the technology that we can develop."

Page says theoretical physicists can investigate something as unlikely as what's happening at the subatomic level of an inanimate object, to celestial questions like how did matter evolve after the Big Bang at the beginning of the universe.

Page admits that what goes on in the offices of theoretical physicists takes a long time to filter down to the public in a practical way, but the science has led to technology taken for granted today. For example, computers use the principles of quantum theory, which Page claims is the greatest achievement of 20th-century theoretical physics. Another example, he says, is global positioning systems.

"GPS depends on our knowledge of general relativity, which was the brainchild of arguably the world's most famous theoretical physicist, Albert Einstein."

Among the guest speakers coming to the university to help celebrate the institute's first 50 years is retired U of A physics faculty member Werner Israel. Page says Israel's work has helped make the complexity of black holes—regions in space that absorb or suck in everything, including light, around it—more understandable. Israel's theoretical research showed nonrotating black holes are perfectly round and one of the simplest objects in the universe.

"The study of theoretical physics enriches all of our lives by both the pursuit of knowledge for its own sake," said Page. "The long-term benefits of theoretical physics come from the technologies it makes possible." ■

Royal Society

continued from page 1

David Brindley investigates the hormonal regulation of triglyceride and phospholipid synthesis in stress, diabetes and obesity. Diabetes and insulin resistance is characterized by high blood triglycerides and his research has proven that lipins are involved in stimulating the liver to secrete fat into the blood. He focuses on mechanisms that control the activity of the enzyme phosphatidate phosphatase. His other studies are designed to illustrate how bioactive lipids regulate wound healing, tumour development, metastasis, angiogenesis and chemoresistance.

Founded in 1882, the Royal Society of Canada is the senior national body of distinguished Canadian scholars, artists and scientists. As Canada's National Academy, the Royal Society of Canada exists to recognize academic excellence and outstanding contributions to Canadian intellectual culture, to advise governments and organizations and to promote a culture of knowledge and innovation in Canada. The society's three academies collectively consist of nearly 2,000 fellows, men and women who are selected by their peers for outstanding contributions to the natural and social sciences, in the arts and in the humanities.

This year's new fellows will be inducted to the RSC during the Induction and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, Nov. 27, 2010, at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa. ■

Support of student learning paves way to honour at CTL

Each September, the University of Alberta honours the achievements of our faculty, students and staff at the Celebration of Teaching and Learning.

This year we will celebrate more than 300 exemplary individuals: faculty who bring their research to life in the classroom; graduate and undergraduate students who have distinguished themselves for outstanding academic and extracurricular work; and staff who support learning.

Bev Betkowski

In her job helping University of Alberta students find volunteer opportunities in the non-profit community to enrich their formal education, Meaghan Goebel relies on a lot of skills—networking, decision-making, planning strategies, getting a handle on assorted issues and challenges.

But as a co-ordinator for the Learning and Beyond office at Augustana Campus, she wouldn't have those skills if it weren't for the help of Joan Schiebelbein and Lorraine Woollard, two recipients honoured by the U of A for their support of student learning.

The pair of U of A staffers developed an internship program that lets students like Goebel, who graduated with an arts degree in 2009, work with non-profit community organizations.

Now in the working world herself, Goebel is using the know-how she gained to help other students find community-based learning opportunities and along the way, grow as citizens.

"Being in the internship program really shaped what I wanted to do. Once I got started, I got really excited about the whole thing," Goebel said. "Joan and Lorraine made the program what it is."

Along with Mathieu Trépanier, a third U of A staff member from Campus Saint-Jean, Schiebelbein and Woollard are this year's winners of the university's Excellence in Learning Support award, which recognizes members of the U of A community whose role doesn't involve teaching, but who still contribute in a meaningful way to the student learning experience.

They are among more than 300 scholarship winners, award-winning teachers and staff being honoured Sept. 24 at the U of A's 15th annual Celebration of Teaching and Learning.

In their respective roles with the U of A's Career and Placement Services and the university's Community Service-Learning program, Schiebelbein and Woollard helped develop the Non-Profit Board Student Internship in 2006. Since then, the internship has launched 50 undergraduate and graduate students from several faculties into the not-for-profit sector. There, they learn how to serve on boards and, as part of their placements, complete projects that benefit the organization with which they're volunteering.

Along the way, they discover more about themselves and how they want to make a difference to society.

"We have students whose careers took a total turn because of what they learned about themselves through their participation in the program," said Schiebelbein, director of Career and Placement Services.

"It exposes students to different types of careers they wouldn't have thought of otherwise. As well, it helps them build connections they can rely on once they do start looking for work."

CELEBRATION OF TEACHING & LEARNING

The internship was developed to offer a non-credit activity for students interested in pursuing a certificate in Community Service Learning, but is also open to those pupils interested in learning more about the not-for-profit sector and getting experience at the board level.

Goebel, who interned on the board of the Bissell Centre in Edmonton in 2008–09, was grateful for both Schiebelbein's "gentle certainty" and Woollard's "persistent praise and encouragement" as she worked her way through the internship. "They ensured my continued success with enthusiastic and imaginative feedback."

"It's an unbelievably rewarding program for the students," said Woollard, administrative director of CSL. "Some of them have stayed on with the boards they have interned with. Others have taken on jobs in the non-profit sector and leadership roles as a result of this program."

Schiebelbein and Woollard are proud to help students along in their journeys of discovery.

"Anything we can do to open more doors to learning makes for a better society of fully engaged citizens," said Woollard. "As a university, we have an obligation to provide a variety of opportunities to students while we have them in our care."

Trépanier, the third recipient of the staff award, is being recognized for his strong commitment to enriching the student experience at Campus Saint-Jean.

As student life co-ordinator, Trépanier guided students in planning such high-energy events as the LipDub project, which pulled together about 100 CSJ students who sang and danced for a video takeoff on a hit song. The feel-good video was posted to YouTube and garnered almost 14,000 hits.

"After the video was shot, one student told me he met people that he'd never seen before on campus. That was incredible, because I felt I helped bring people together," Trépanier said.

He also helped students launch a French entrepreneur club, organized a leadership summit and created an awards ceremony to honour the hard work of CSJ's student club executives and volunteers.

"I see my role as a guide for students, helping them develop life skills and become more responsible. When I see that by the end of their degrees they are less shy, more outgoing and spend their time better, it's a great feeling."

Trépanier's mission has always been to help develop citizens, not just graduates.

"We want to create experiences for students outside the classroom which are practical and complete their education within our walls." And though he has since taken another position on campus, he continues to be inspired by the energy and enthusiasm of students. "It keeps me young!"

> "We have students whose careers took a total turn because of what they learned about themselves through their participation in the [Career and Placement Services] program."
>
> Joan Schiebelbein

Supplied

(L-R) Joan Schiebelbein, Lorraine Woollard and Mathieu Trépanier are winners of the university's Excellence in Learning Support award.

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President's Town Hall

Please join President Indira Samarasekera for a town hall discussion and question and answer session.

Wednesday, October 6, 2010
8:30 am to 9:30 am
TL B1, Tory Lecture Theatre Complex (Tory Turtle)

All faculty, staff, and students are welcome.
Please register online
www.president.ualberta.ca/eventrsvp.cfm
Enter code 1089

With questions, please contact sheila.stosky@ualberta.ca or 780.492.1525.

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Michael Abenojar, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Sept. 10 "Are You a Winner?" contest, after he correctly identified the object in the photo as the is Pelton wheel (part of the Pelton Turbine) on the second-floor pedway of the Mechanical Engineering Building. For correctly identifying the photo in question, Abenojar has won a copy of "The Beginning of Print Culture in Athabasca Country," courtesy of the U of A Press. Translated by Patricia Demers, Naomi McIlwraith and, Dorothy Thunder is a tangible piece of history for anyone interested in language, culture, the making of books and the process of settlement in Western Canada.

Up for grabs this week is a copy of "Locating the Past/Discovering the Present: Perspectives on Religion, Culture, and Marginality," edited by David Gay and Stephen Reimer, courtesy of the University of Alberta Press. This collection examines the production and recreation of religious ideas and images in different times and locations throughout history and around the world. To win a copy, simply identify where on campus the object of the picture is located. Email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Sept. 30, and you will be entered into the draw.

Michael Brown

Governance 101: Good people equals good governance

If there are aspects to the University of Alberta that you don't understand, chances are you're not alone. The university can be a complicated entity with many moving parts. To assist the campus community in better understanding who does what and how things get done at the university folio *is introducing a new feature called University 101. This issue's topic is the first of a five-part series on governance.*

Michael Brown

Governance is the processes and practices through which an entity organizes to achieve its mandate. It is concerned with the structures and procedures for decision-making, accountability, control and codes of conduct. The goal of effective governance is a robust organization that achieves peak performance and is accountable to the people it serves.

According to Marion Haggarty-France, university secretary in the University of Alberta's governance office, the main component of governance at the U of A is its people.

"The U of A is well served by its members," she said of those—largely volunteers—who serve on committees to create policy that helps move the university forward. "These members are committed to institutional governance on campus because they see this as part of their role of serving the university community."

Moreover, while governance provides the framework through which power is exercised, Haggarty-France says there is one golden rule of conduct that guides all involved: at the heart of good governance are the best interests of the university. "If everyone involved remembers to put the university first, in the end, we are going to have the right result for the university."

The U of A's style of governance is a bicameral, or two-chamber, structure, with power transferred from the province to the university by means of the Post-Secondary Learning Act, which was created in 2004 to guide all Alberta post-secondary institutions.

The two chambers—the 21-member board of governors and the 158-member General Faculties Council—along with their respective standing committees, in addition to the varying faculty and department councils, fall within the legislative branch of the structure and are responsible for debating and approving policy.

"The board of governors, simply put, is responsible for the business, financial and auditing aspects of the university," said Haggarty-France. "Meanwhile, GFC looks after all academic matters—programs, students and procedures associated with academic appointments, promotions and dismissals."

> **"If everyone involved remembers to put the university first, in the end, we are going to have the right result for the university."**
>
> Marion Haggarty-France

Simplified further, Haggarty-France says items that fall under university business—the university plan, the budget and capital plans—go through the board for final approval, while "the GFC is the stopping point for the academic plan for the university."

And while governance shouldn't be confused with open consultation, Haggarty-France says the university has embraced open consultation by adopting a "collegial" approach to governance.

She explains collegial governance depends heavily upon the participation of colleagues to establish and realize a shared purpose and provides an opportunity for citizens to participate in decision-making.

For the staff member charged with, for example, shepherding, a piece of legislation, a centre naming or a policy through the governance steps, the process might seem cumbersome. Navigating the "alphabet soup" of groups and committees such as the CLE (Committee on the Learning Environment), the BFPC (Board Finance and Property Committee) and the APC (Academic Planning Committee) may seem long and can be frustrating for items on a fast track, yet that consultation process means that along the way, stakeholder groups have a chance to have their say.

"The university feels more value is added when more parties can look at an issue," said Haggarty-Frace. "For example, the academic plan only requires four committees to formally deal with it, but in the end, it might go through 40 different groups, so the document will have been seen and thoroughly touched, and will be a better document and reflect the academy."

And while there is a notion that university governance is awash in sub-committees of sub-committees, the U of A has one of the flattest academic governance systems in Canada. Haggarty-France says in the early 1970s, the GFC comprised 33 standing committees; today there are just 10.

"We try to serve the community, but at a certain point we had to ask why we have 33 committees—one committee recommending to another committee recommending to another committee," she said. "We have worked really hard to make sure committees are clear and have delegated authority.

"We have done our homework to make sure we honour the time people have spent on the committees, and we have committees that have the authority to do good work." Next issue we will examine the executive branch of the governance process.

GFC hears about latest budget update

Jason Cobb

On Sept. 20, General Faculties Council heard that, as of Sept. 16, 48 staff have received involuntary layoff notices, an increase of five since was first reported to council in May.

The information came during a presentation to council from Provost Carl Amrhein and Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Phyllis Clark, who provided an update to council on the current operating budget as well as glimpse of what will be coming in budget discussions for 2011–2012.

"I promised council I would provide an update in the fall, and, as expected, there has been a small increase in the number of layoffs as budget calculations have been finalized and implemented," said Amrhein.

Council also heard that 28 staff had been redeployed to other existing positions within the university, and 182 staff from across the institution had opted for the Voluntary Retirement Incentive Plan. Amrhein indicated that discussions are underway with deans and directors to determine when and how many of these early retirement positions will be filled.

Clark told council that the university is on target and may even improve from the forecast operating funding gap of $14.8 million, indicating that other measures, such as furlough days and the personal leave program, are helping. Clark also indicated that while there is continued volatility in the markets, "the general uptick in growth generally is working in the university's favour and we're seeing our investments regain some of the ground they lost in the recession."

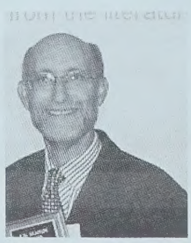
Looking forward towards next year's budget, Clark and Amrhein informed GFC that challenges on both revenue and expense sides of the ledger will keep the pressure on budget plans. In addition to an expected zero per cent increase in the base grant from the Government of Alberta, the university will be proposing a 0.35 per cent increase in tuition, the maximum allowable under the provincial regulations, which tie increases to the consumer price index. Contract negotiations with AASUA and NASA, as well as unfunded pension plan liabilities and inflationary and growth pressures, are also important considerations going forward this year.

Rheumatology professor honoured for achievements in educational leadership

Ken Mathewson

Early 20th-century American author William Arthur Ward wrote: "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires."

That being so, it's difficult to decide what category Stephen Aaron, professor of rheumatology with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, best fits into, as he has not only gained a mastery of all four methods of teaching, but also has devoted his career to determining to what other teaching strategies students respond.



Stephen Aaron

In appreciation of his extensive accomplishments in researching and refining the educational processes within the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, Aaron was awarded the E.N. Skakun Award for Service to Education in a ceremony at the Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation Tuesday evening. The award was named in honour of Aaron's former research partner, Ernie Skakun, a founding member and director of psychometrics for the faculty's Division of Support and Studies in Medical Education.

"This peer adjudicated award recognizes the achievements of an individual who has made a major and long-term contribution to the educational leadership and scholarship in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry," said Fraser Brenneis, vice-dean of education. "Anyone who has had the pleasure of watching Dr. Aaron teach will quickly appreciate the level of teaching skill, educational insight, innovation, scholarship and enthusiasm that characterizes his performance."

Aaron took to the podium and delivered an entertaining and inspiring lecture, focused not on what he has taught his students over the years, but rather on the insights he has gained from them.

"Like most of us, I was never formally taught to be a teacher," said Aaron. "To work in a school and work with children, you need a degree. You need to be taught how to teach. I realize that if I know anything about teaching and education, I learned it from my students."

If that's the case, his students have taught him well. Aaron holds an impressive list of credentials, awards and accomplishments. In his tenure with the faculty, he has acted as vice-chair of education, associate director for the Division of Support and Studies in Medical Education; he has served as clinical skills director for the faculty and as pre-clinical curriculum coordinator, and as director of rheumatology postgraduate training.

However, his distinguished educational background hasn't hindered his ability to present complicated material in a way that's understandable to the masses. Nor has he forgotten the benefits of knowing when to let students educate themselves.

"You have to put yourself in the student's position," he said. "You don't know where you are unless somebody tells you.

"Think about your daughter learning to drive a car. She may have been driven to school a 1,000 times, but it's not until she actually drives herself and has to be responsible for getting there that she really knows the directions."

Aaron says that despite possibly taking on too much, too soon in his career, there have been substantial advantages to adopting such a wide variety of tasks and responsibilities.

"It was probably foolhardy, but I found it all enjoyable, and it gave me an opportunity to learn about the breadth of education," he said.

"But really, the thing I like the most is just working with the students."

Supplied

Marek Michalak and Allison Kraus worked with an international team of medical researchers that discovered shutting off an important gene causes mobility issues reminiscent of neurological diseases like multiple sclerosis.

Gene shutdown leads to neurological disease breakthrough

Raquel Maurier

Researchers at the University of Alberta have discovered that shutting off an important gene in the body causes mobility issues, reminiscent of neurological diseases like multiple sclerosis.

The discovery may have major implications for neurological diseases and other disorders of the nervous system that deal with something called myelin impairment. Myelin is the protective coating around neurons and is important because it allows messages to quickly travel within the nervous system.

Two scientists from the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, Marek Michalak and Allison Kraus, made the discovery while working with an international team of medical researchers, including colleagues throughout Alberta. About five years ago, Michalak and Kraus decided they wanted to research a specific type of gene that is responsible for the protein folding ability in cells. Depending on the protein and their purpose in a cell, they "fold" themselves into certain shapes to perform their function. They assemble themselves based on the instructions they get from genes in the cell. But if protein-folding functions in cells don't work properly, people can acquire a host of diseases, including multiple sclerosis.

The duo wanted to specifically study what would happen if they removed a specific chaperone, a protein used in the cell-folding process, called calnexin. In doing so, they inadvertently created a neurological disease in their experimental models. There were numerous mobility issues produced and the speed of messages being relayed in the nervous systems of the test subjects were delayed as well. The symptoms displayed were very similar to the symptoms seen in people with myelin impairment diseases such as MS and Charcot Marie Tooth disease, a neurological disorder.

"It was a surprise," says Kraus, a PhD student. "We never expected to find out what we did. Then we needed to expand our study and that's when it became a bigger and more collaborative effort with numerous researchers around the globe becoming involved."

Michalak and Kraus say their findings provide a step forward in understanding the complexity of neurological diseases and may one day lead to the development of better treatments. The next step for researchers is to study DNA from people to see if the gene contains mutations that could contribute to their neurological disease.

The results of the duo's research, recently published in the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, clearly showed for the first time that chaperones impact myelin, something that no one had realized until now.

"Myelin diseases are so diverse and so tricky to figure out," says Michalak, a professor in the department of biochemistry. "Nobody understands why these diseases, which cause people to progressively lose their motor functions, happen. We have discovered a new player in myelin diseases that was never considered before."

Test to pinpoint preeclampsia on the way

Raquel Maurier

A team of researchers from the University of Alberta is on the cusp of developing a simple test to accurately predict whether a woman will develop preeclampsia, a condition that affects four million women a year and can result in the death of both mother and baby.

The test, which can be administered as early as 15 weeks, is possible thanks to an international study that pinpointed a "metabolic fingerprint" in women who later develop preeclampsia, which is marked by high blood pressure and high protein levels in urine. The metabolic fingerprint is a combination of 14 metabolites or sugars, fats and amino acids.

There is currently no predictive test for preeclampsia, a leading cause of maternal death worldwide and which can strike at anywhere between 24–40 weeks gestation. And the only way to cure the condition is to deliver the baby, usually weeks or months premature.

But in the test developed by this team, for every 100 women tested, the majority who would later develop preeclampsia were identified with fewer false positives (about 21 per cent).

"Developing a predictive test for preeclampsia has been called the obstetrics' Holy Grail," says Louise Kenny, a principal investigator who took the lead on the research. She is an adjunct professor at the U of A and a professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the Anu Research Centre, University College Cork, in Cork, Ireland.

Philip Baker, dean of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the U of A, is also one of the principal investigators and the senior author of the study. He says the implications for this finding are far reaching and could impact women worldwide.

"If we can bring the rates of maternal deaths in undeveloped countries down to the rates in developed countries by being able to determine which women are at the greatest risk for developing preeclampsia, then it has that potential to save thousands of lives."

Supplied

Researchers Philip Baker and Louise Kenny, with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta, discovered pregnant women who later develop preeclampsia have a metabolic signature.

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Alumni Weekend events

Sept. 24

Kick-Off Party & Bears Game. Pregame festivities stat at 6 p.m. and kick-off is at 7 p.m.

Sept. 25

Scholars Series. Reinvigorating Democracy in Canada – Three Perspectives. 12:30–2 p.m. at the KatzGroup/Rexall Centre (114 St. and 87 Ave.)

Alumni Dinner & Dance. 6 p.m. in the Ballroom at the Edmonton Exposition Centre (Northlands). $65 per person. For tickets call 780-492-3224 or purchase tickets at the Welcome Area (main floor, Students' Union Bldg) on Friday, Sept. 24 (8 a.m.–6 p.m.) or Saturday, Sept. 25 (until 2 p.m.)

Sept. 26

Green & Gold Breakfast. 10 a.m., Ballroom, Westin Hotel, $30. Keynote speaker is U of A alumnus and Vancouver 2010 gold medalist Marc Kennedy.

University Symphony and Symphonic Wind Ensemble in Concert. 2 p.m. at Convocation Hall, $15.

For more information go to ww.alumni.ualberta.ca/Celebrate/AlumniWeekend.aspx

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Pecha Kucha night comes to campus

Sarah Ligon

The Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science recently opened its doors for its first major public event—an event tailor made for the cutting-edge space. On Sept. 23, several hundred people turned out for Pecha Kucha Night 8, which the U of A Alumni Association, in partnership with Edmonton's Next Gen Initiative, brought to campus as part of its Alumni Weekend festivities.

Named for the sound of "chit chat" in Japanese, Pecha Kucha Nights started in Tokyo as a way for innovative young designers to get together and share their ideas. Now, Pecha Kucha Nights have spread to cities across the globe, allowing creative thinkers from all walks of life to share their thoughts on design, technology, arts and culture—and everything in between.

The new CCIS building was specially selected as the location for the event because of the building's innovative design and interdisciplinary nature. "The essence of Pecha Kucha Nights is to expose the audience to new ideas, innovations and perspectives. The purpose of this new building is also to unite the sciences through new ideas, innovations and perspectives. So it's a perfect fit for our eighth Pecha Kucha Night," said Ryan Stark, co-chair of the event for Next Gen.

The space itself gave participants plenty to talk about, as the public got a sneak peek inside the new LEED-certified building, including a look at its striking terrazzo floors designed by artist Scott Parsons.

As its name suggests, the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science was created with intellectual cross-fertilization in mind. When it officially opens in 2011, it will house five teams of scientists from diverse disciplines so that they can pool their knowledge and resources and collaborate in ways not confined by traditional boundaries.

The unconventionality of the physical space mirrored the quirkiness of the presentations, which ranged from talks on urban food production to non-fiction literature and were given in Pecha Kucha's special "20 x 20" format: each speaker gives a presentation containing only 20 images, each shown for 20 seconds. The constraints are meant to challenge the presenters to clarify their ideas and match each thought with the perfect image.

The opening presentation was given by U of A President Indira Samarasekera, who spoke on the idea of the university beyond its iconic physical spaces—spaces such as the new science building. "Since becoming president, I can sometimes get caught up in the physical infrastructure of this place," said Samarasekera. "But I also try to spend time contemplating the idea of the university . . . that the university should be a place where curiosity and imagination are allowed full reign—and that knowledge should uplift and touch the lives of all people."

> "The essence of Pecha Kucha Nights is to expose the audience to new ideas, innovations and perspectives."
>
> Ryan Stark

Distinguished indeed

The University of Alberta Alumni Association honoured 36 outstanding graduates at the 2010 Alumni Recognition Awards Sept. 22 at the Winspear Centre for Music.

The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes the accomplishments of living alumni who have earned national and international prominence as a result of their achievements.

Through his talent, creativity, and enthusiasm, Bob Baker, '74 BFA, has shared his love of theatre with audiences around the world, and his impact will be felt for generations to come.

As a coach and mentor, Melody Davidson, '86 BPE, is a trailblazer who has left an indelible mark on the sport of women's hockey in Canada and around the world.

A pioneering spirit in the biochemistry community, Lillian Fishman, '36 BSc(HEc), has had a lasting impact on cancer research as co-founder of the Sanford Burnham Medical Research Institute.

David W. Krause, '71 BSc, '76 MSc, is a world-renowned vertebrate paleontologist who has made groundbreaking discoveries and remarkable humanitarian contributions.

Myron, '60 BSc, '64 MD, and Elaine Semkuley, '62 BSc(Pharm), have made an immeasurable difference in the world through their volunteer organization Medical Mercy Canada.

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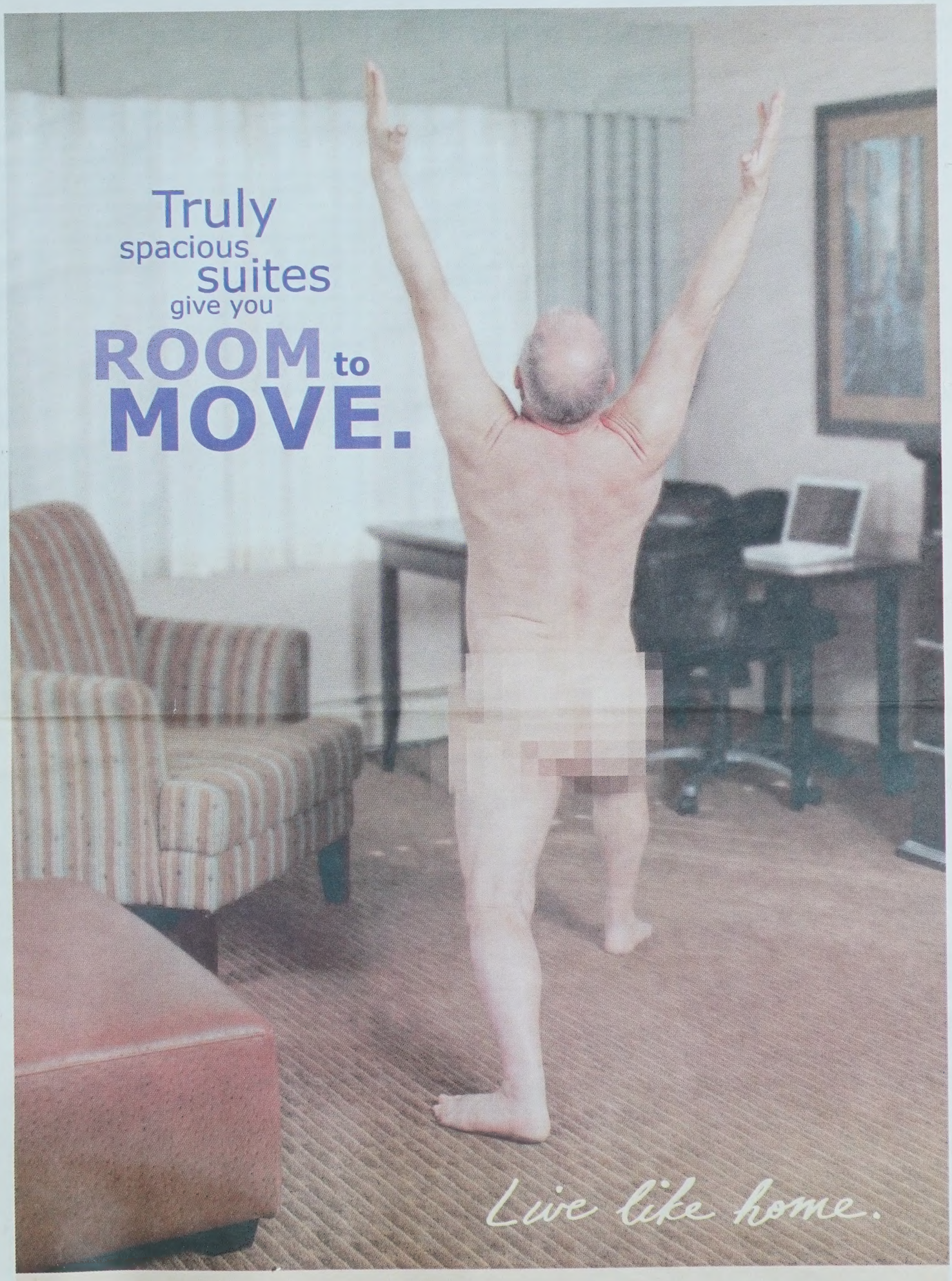

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A crash course in cultural sensitivity

Michael Brown

Approaches to the way patients are cared for in a health-care system varies globally based on cultural mores. The convergence of these differing health-care models in Canadian society has led to certain sensitivity challenges in the delivery of all aspects of health and wellness, including nursing care. In an effort to address these challenges, the University of Alberta has given the green light to a project that introduces cultural competence directly into the classroom.

Gina Higginbottom

Gina Higginbottom, associate professor in the Faculty of Nursing and Canada research chair in ethnicity and health, has been awarded $48,000 from the U of A's Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund to develop a self-directed cultural competence workbook and digital resource.

Entitled *Providing Culturally Competent Health Care – A Self-Directed Workbook and Digital Resource*, Higginbottom says with this project she hopes to shine a light on the teaching resources that facilitate the development of cultural competencies of nursing students.

"The paths of migration to Edmonton have changed in recent decades," said Higginbottom. "Clearly this impacts upon health-care delivery for nurses because many aspects of health and illness are culturally defined. "We need to prepare our student nurses to nurse in the 21st century."

Higginbottom says that, while this program will initially target students in the nursing faculty, she will also seek opportunities to ensure this funding leads to cross-disciplinary initiatives that aim to improve the cultural competencies of students across the health-science disciplines.

"Education is central to the business of the U of A, it is also important that, along with research, we deliver cutting-edge education and are able to promote innovation in education," she said.

Higginbottom, who is currently undertaking a study looking at maternity experiences and outcomes of recent immigrant women in both rural and urban Alberta, says it is this type of culturally relevant innovative curriculum that boosts the U of A's international reputation as a first-class research and educational institution, which attracts top international talent from around the world.

Recently, Cassie Kenny, a post-doctoral fellow from New Zealand and Jayantha Dassanayake, an exercise physiologist from Australia, decided to continue their studies within the U of A's Faculty of Nursing. "This highlights the fact that post-doctoral fellows are prepared to relocate very large distances to come work at the U of A. I think that says something about our international standing."

Mother Nature inspires biomedical engineering research

Kathleen Cameron

Like many engineers before him, John Nychka is turning to Mother Nature to help solve a problem.

Nychka, a materials engineering professor in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, is studying wettability—how fast a liquid (such as water or a solvent) will seep through the dust or grime on top of, and then reach and adhere to, an object's surface—and its possible implications in biomedical and biological materials.

Nychka's interest in the subject came while he was creating coatings for industrial uses.

He and his graduate student, Jadid Samad, noticed that some of the materials displayed funny behaviour: the water didn't wet, or spread out on the surface of all of the materials. Nychka's natural curiosities were piqued, which lead him and Samad to examine the wettability of leaf surfaces, which also display water-shedding abilities, and how these principles could be mimicked to engineer new coatings.

Leaves display surface modifications that affect whether they are water-spreading or repellant surfaces. Degrees of wettability are affected by the chemical nature and roughness of the surface.

"We want to understand how to explain, or even change, the wettability of a surface," Nychka said. "Once we understand the properties that affect the wettability, we can start to apply those concepts in our own research. So far we have been pretty successful."

Nychka decided to focus his attention on wettability as it pertains to biomedical and biological materials science, a decision that landed his paper—and a photograph he took of a water drop on a leaf—on the cover of the scientific journal, *JOM*.

As Nychka explains, "people are coming up with all these new materials in biomedicine, but ultimately these materials are going into the body where there are fluids, and they have to interact. We have to understand how these materials are going to behave."

The wetting of solid surfaces by biological fluids is often necessary so that a foreign material is accepted by the body. In the same respect, applications in biomimicry and biomaterials often require interactions with liquids, so the implications of wettability can be substantial.

Interest in this area of research is spreading, and Nychka is giving an invited talk at the 34th International Conference and Exposition on Advanced Ceramics and Composites in Daytona Beach in January. His talk deals with manufacturing ceramic oxide coatings to mimic hydrophobic plant leaves.

"Now that we have these great ideas, it's a question of can we run with this and turn it into something," says Nychka. "Mother Nature has good solutions, and we need to adapt them to engineering materials in order to help society."

Michael Brown

Materials engineering professor John Nychka has studied the surface structure of leaves to develop water-resistant surfaces.

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U of A welcomes first writing studies distinguished visitor

Christina Grant

As the writing studies program's first ever distinguished visitor, Cheryl Glenn—author of *Unspoken: A Rhetoric of Silence*—is bringing the best of her cutting-edge scholarship and wide experience to hundreds of students, instructors and others in a packed, two-week visit, which ends Sept. 28.

Glenn, a liberal-arts research professor of English and women's studies at Pennsylvania State University, helped develop a daunting itinerary that has her visiting every fall-term U of A writing studies class, including Anglais 126 at Campus Saint-Jean.

"The draft of the new Academic Plan for the university emphasizes connections between learning, discovery and the community," said Roger Graves, director of Writing Across the Curriculum in the Office of Interdisciplinary Studies where writing studies is housed. "These connections can only come through language used to persuade and shape understandings—through rhetoric. Cheryl Glenn is an internationally recognized and accomplished scholar whose workshops, lectures and class visits help the university community understand how to use both language and silence to build better communities.

"Her work builds bridges across disciplines, faith groups, ethnic groups and genders to help us better understand ourselves, others and the ways we communicate in the university and the community."

Glenn's work focuses on the rhetoric of silence as well as histories of women's rhetoric and women's writing practices. She explores contexts and processes for the teaching of writing and examines inclusionary rhetorical practices and theories.

Cheryl Glenn

"There are many wonderful teachers who don't do cutting-edge research," said Glenn. "I don't think it's a prerequisite for good teaching. But being mentally active and intellectually curious are, and we employ and engage our curiosity in different ways."

Glenn's work has earned her many awards, however, Glenn is quick to point out the working partnerships with colleagues around the world, as well as a position which allows time for research.

"I don't always find balance," she admits. "But I have an invigorating career that I love, so I don't worry about it. I get to travel and meet students from around the globe. And I get to sit in on courses that I didn't dream of. It's a pretty good life."

surf city

Located in Winnipeg, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights is Canada's newest national museum, with a mission to enhance the understanding of human rights, to promote respect for others and to encourage reflection and dialogue. The museum's website not only holds a wealth of information about exhibits and programs within the institution, but also contains resources about human rights in Canada and around the world. Historical documents, audio and video clips from exhibits and a background of the evolution of human rights in this country are available to all visitors.

http://humanrightsmuseum.ca/home

Augustana campus opens Student Forum and library

Christopher Thrall

On Sept. 21, Augustana Campus celebrated its first new building in 20 years. Dean Roger Epp, U of A President Indira Samarasekera and Minister Ray Danyluk were among those who attended the Student Forum and library opening in Camrose.

While the library opened its doors in September of 2009, Augustana Campus chose to celebrate its formal opening after finishing the sweeping Student Forum three months ago. The ceremony is part of Augustan's ongoing Centenary celebrations.

"We waited 30 years for this building, but we received a space well worth waiting for," said Epp jokingly. "This forum says that the learning that happens outside the classroom is as important as what happens inside. It is a place where there will be chance meetings of professors and students, where students can have a coffee and debate. And, in the end, this building represents the partnership between the world-class University of Alberta and our proud rural community—a partnership that is forged at Augustana."

"Augustana has always been a campus recognized for its strong sense of community and connection," said President Samarasekera. "This new building is a physical manifestation of these foundational values. It links together all kinds of other spaces—the library, the gym, the chapel, the cafeteria and classrooms. In a sense, this new building serves the entire human being—feeding and exercising the body, the mind and the spirit. As a forum for debate and exchange, it is also a place that will breathe constant life into the U of A's motto—q*uaecumque vera*—which urges the continual pursuit of whatsoever things are true."

Ray Danyluk, Alberta's minister of infrastructure, "Don't see this new library as just a great collection of books, but rather as a collection of opportunities for every visitor." he said to the students.

Mary-Jo Romaniuk, acting head librarian for the U of A's university libraries, agreed. "The new Augustana Library is an inclusive and transformative learning space offering the Augustana faculty, staff and students, as well as the Camrose community, access to not only a wealth of electronic resources, but also to more than 130,000 items in the print collection. The new library is also a gateway to access the more than 10 million items available in the U of A libraries' collections."

In constructing both the Student Forum and library, materials and fixtures were carefully chosen to have a low environmental impact: high-efficiency lights save energy, polished concrete floors require little maintenance and passive heating and cooling systems reduce energy costs.

"We are proud to have delivered on our promised growth plan, made to the Augustana and Camrose communities during merger discussions with the U of A. We thank the government for recognizing the importance of our out-of-class space to everything that happens at a university," said Epp.

Christopher Thrall

(L-R) Dean Roger Epp, U of A President Indira Samarasekera and Minister Ray Danyluk were among those who attended the unveiling of Augustana Campus' first new building in 20 years, the Student Forum and library.

Software that's a good listener

TEC Edmonton

Nadia Anderson

Ever asked, 'Are my ears working? What did you say?'

If you have kids or have been around them, those words have probably crossed your lips. For Megan Hodge, University of Alberta professor of speech pathology and audiology, these questions have become her passion.

In 2001, along with colleagues in linguistics and psychology, Hodge applied for grant funding from the Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network to develop software that could gauge children's spoken language intelligibility at the word and sentence level; specifically, how well their words can be understood by unfamiliar listeners. The software is targeted for children with speech disorders that are related to how the brain controls speech.

With this software, children three years and older are placed in front of a screen and an image appears, accompanied by an audio recording of what the image is. The audio recording contains up to seven words and the child is asked to remember and then repeat what he or she heard. Via a microphone, the software records the child's response. Later, listeners are brought in to identify what the child said, based on the recordings. The software collects this information from listeners and analyzes the data. The results provide a measure of the child's speech intelligibility, a useful indicator for the severity of a speech disorder and how this may change over time.

Word got out about Hodge's software and the next thing she knew she was receiving messages from around the world with interest in licensing her technology. This was her first experience with technology transfer, which led Hodge to connect with the U of A's technology transfer agent, TEC Edmonton.

Working with Darrell Petras, TEC Edmonton's technology transfer manager, made it a very positive experience, says Hodge."It has definitely been a partnership between us, a cross-education of sorts. Darrell is very knowledgeable and has been patient and helpful in walking me through the licensing process. I liked that he is responsive to my questions and concerns in a timely manner. In turn, he has learned a lot about working with speech-language pathology researchers and services."

To date Hodge's software has been licensed twice locally— to a speech therapy contractor for schools, who works in the Edmonton area, and to the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital – Alberta Health Services.

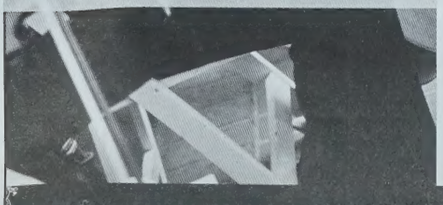
With the launch of her website increasing her exposure, Hodge has also licensed the software to the New Zealand's Massey University, and is fielding requests from researchers across Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia and the United States.

Petras continues to send out software transfer agreements (similar to an option agreement) letting researchers try out the technology for a short period of time, before they license it.

Hodge has some sage advice about her commercialization experience, "Developing and maintaining software is no simple feat. It requires time, human and financial resources. However, the end result—connecting my passion to a tool that can make a difference in a child's life—well, that says it all."

2010 - 2011 SEASON

THE EDMONTON CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY



anton kuerti, piano
+ jacques thibaud trio
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9
CONVOCATION HALL

paolo pandolfo, viola da gamba
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27
ROBERTSON-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH

tafelmusik baroque orchestra
SATURDAY, JANUARY 29
CONVOCATION HALL

shanghai quartet
SATURDAY, MARCH 5
CONVOCATION HALL

the tallis scholars
THURSDAY, MARCH 24
MCDOUGALL UNITED CHURCH

rebel
FRIDAY, APRIL 1
CONVOCATION HALL

ALL CONCERTS AT 8 PM.
TICKETS FROM TIX ON THE SQUARE, THE GRAMOPHONE AND AT THE DOOR.

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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Mini Medical School is back

The Bernard Snell auditorium was unusually lively for a Tuesday evening Sept. 14, as the theatre filled for this year's first installment of the fourth annual Mini Medical School lecture series offered by the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry.

In this year's inaugural address, Jill Konkin, associate dean of rural and regional health, engaged a crowd of more than 60 "quasi-medical students" on the challenges of establishing functional, effective health care in Canada's rural communities.

And she's hardly telling tales out of school. Konkin spent 16 years as a family doctor in Jasper, and has spent most of her 27-year career working towards improving health and wellness in remote areas of Alberta and across the country.

According to Konkin, the challenges of providing adequate medical resources to rural areas are substantial, but not insurmountable. The solution lies partially in recognizing the diversity between localities.

"If you've seen one rural community, then you've seen one rural community," said Konkin. "As we've all seen in our major cities, there are different mixes and different population needs, and rural communities are no different."

Mini Medical School, a popular six-week public lecture series put on by the faculty's Division of Continuous Professional Learning, is intended for anyone interested in medicine. This year's series, which covers such topics as surgery, pathology, nutrition, dentistry and acupuncture, is designed not just to give prospective students an impression of what medical classes entail, but also to equip members of the general public with a greater understanding of medical terminology and procedures, and to help facilitate communication with their general practitioners.

The series runs every Tuesday evening until Nov. 2. You can sign up for individual lectures if you can't attend all six. Individuals looking to register are encouraged to do so online at www.cpl.ualberta.ca/Home/Events/mini.cfm. Registration desks are also available onsite each evening beginning at 6:30 p.m.

U of A uses technology to address shortage of rehabilitation professionals in rural communities

This September the University of Alberta's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine is bringing its master of science in physical therapy program to Camrose, Alberta. By using high-definition video and audio, 10 students at the Augustana campus in Camrose and 70 students in Edmonton will study in synch.

The students in Camrose will be able to view, interact and experience the same labs and lectures as their Edmonton classmates by using real-time and high-definition video conferencing. Clinical placements will be held in Camrose, allowing students to get hands-on experience in a rural setting. Renovations were completed this summer to produce a state-of-the-art lab and classroom for students in Augustana.

The goal of this program is to help address the shortage of rehabilitation professionals in Alberta's rural communities. Currently, 40 per cent of the province's population lives outside of Edmonton and Calgary and only 10 per cent of physical therapists work in rural settings.

"We need to train more professionals who will practice in rural communities," said Roger Epp, dean of Augustana Campus, "and the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus is well placed to meet those needs. The addition of physiotherapy to the programs offered at Augustana translates into real benefits and opportunities for the students, the campus, our community of Camrose and rural Alberta as a whole."

100 Years of Golden Bears football

The year 2010 marks the 100th season of University of Alberta Golden Bears' football, which will be celebrated on Sept. 18 against the University of Calgary Dinos.

The Golden Bears trail the Dinos in their all-time series, having won 37 of their 81 previous contests.

In 611 games, going back to 1910, the Golden Bears have amassed a 325-277-9 record, for a .547 winning percentage in the regular season. They are the owners of 18 Canada West conference championships and three Vanier Cup titles (1967, 1972, and 1980).

More than 70 players have moved on from the U of A for the professional football ranks, including: Brian Fryer (NFL, CFL), Joe Poplawski (CFL Hall of Fame), Mel Smith (CFL), Blake Dermott (CFL All-Star), Trent Brown (CFL All-Star), Jamie Stoddard (CFL), and Simeon Rottier, the first Golden Bear to go first overall in the CFL draft.

The 2-1 Golden Bears will play the University of Saskatchewan Huskies on Sept. 24 at Foote Field as part of the U of A Alumni Weekend festivities.

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www.ualberta.ca/folio/

Studio Theatre journeys to the underworld

Michael Brown

In the original version of the Greek tragedy of Orpheus, the fate of Eurydice's future as she languished in the underworld rested in the hands of her heartbroken, lyre-playing husband for which the tale is named.

Fast forward a few millennia. The love story still sizzles and the tragedy still haunts, but gone is the damsel in distress, replaced by a Eurydice who has seized at least part of her own destiny.

Eurydice's stay in the netherworld and her struggles to keep love alive beyond the grave are the subject of Studio Theatre's latest offering, a retelling of a timeless love story—*Eurydice*.

Directed by master of fine arts directing candidate Dave Horak, this re-imagining of the Orpheus myth plays out from the point of view of its heroine, Eurydice. It combines quirky contemporary characters and breathtaking visual effects to create a weird and wonderful rhapsody about the pleasures and pains of memory, love and loss.

In this take, Eurydice is reunited with her recently deceased father and is torn between the chance to return to her former life with the love of her life, Orpheus, who had descended to bring her home, or to stay in the underworld.

"Because the playwright Sarah Ruhl has focused on Eurydice, there is another dimension to the play," said Harden. "Eurydice is dealing with grief in a lot of different ways. While she is still madly in love with Orpheus, she is still grieving her father.

"Like all hard decisions, I think people can relate. You may not have been to the underworld, but we've all had to make difficult decisions in our lives."

A tricycle, a string house, an elevator that rains and costumes that situate the play at virtually any time in the 20th and 21st centuries replace the togas and the bare feet expected from a Greek tragedy.

Michael Brown

Dave Horak, director of "Eurydice," on the set of his play.

"*Eurydice* is set anywhere and everywhere and nowhere all at the same time," said Harden. "There are costumes from the 1930s, '40s and '50s; there are modern costumes, all in an effort to throw expectations off. You might come in knowing something about the myth or you might know something about Greek theatre, but whatever your expectation, it is going to be thrown off."

Evening performances of *Eurydice* run at the U of A Timms Centre for the Arts from Sept. 23–Oct. 2, at 7:30 p.m., with a $5 preview Sept. 22 at 7:30 p.m. A matinee performance is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 30 at 12:30 p.m. There is no performance Sunday, Sept. 26. There is also a sign language interpretation during the Oct. 2 show.

Tickets are on sale now, available for $10-$20 at TIX on the Square (780-420-1757) and online at www.tixonthesquare.ca , as well as in person at the Timms Centre Box office throughout the play's run.

Stage drama

One of the key components to the telling of *Eurydice* is the impressive stage, which was the final element of Jennifer Goodman's masters of fine arts degree. All told, the stage took more than 300 hours to complete, which is one-third longer than the typical Studio Theatre stage. Goodman says some of the more interesting challenges included figuring out drainage for the play's raining elevator and the construction of the towering steel dome with compound curves.

"The set needed to start out in the real world and transform to the underworld," said Goodman. "We wanted it to reflect both the whimsical side of the play and the darker more repressive elements."

In the play, when Eurydice gets to the underworld she thinks she is on a train platform, which Goodman says was the scene for the set's inspiration.

"We incorporated a lot of New York subway architecture and we found that it sort of resonated because a train platform is this sort of in-between place; it's neither here nor there. People are coming or going, and it's not usually a place of rest."

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Bev Betkowski

Anne Bissonnette says there's much more to these dolls than just the warm and fuzzy factor.

Doll exhibit pays homage to Canada's women of the North

Bev Betkowski

It looks like a cuddly collection of teddy bears, but there's a lot more to the soft dolls starring in a new exhibit of Arctic craftsmanship at the University of Alberta.

The exhibit, now on display in the lobby of the Human Ecology building, pays tribute to the tough resourcefulness of Canada's Northern women, and also to the sometimes dark mythology that helped fashion the dolls.

"In Mother's Hood: Inuit Packing Dolls of Taloyoak," highlights the U of A's collection of Inuit dolls created by the women of Taloyoak, a tiny hamlet in Nunavut. The exhibit pays tribute to a long-standing tradition of self-sufficiency; in 1974, the women formed a craft co-operative and began using their sewing skills to make distinct collector dolls to earn money for their families.

The exhibit also pays tribute to Inuit folklore.

Made of hardy wool duffle, the 12 dolls celebrate the women not only as gifted seamstresses, but also as mothers, entrepreneurs and keepers of legend. Co-curator Anne Bissonnette can't help cooing over the huggable collection, but notes there's much more to these dolls than just the warm and fuzzy factor.

"These dolls tell us about the Inuit, informing us of their universe, of their traditions—especially in terms of the women as seamstresses—and also of their ability to make a living today."

The craft co-operative was formed with the aid of a government subsidy in 1974 and operated until 1986, when government support dried up. The co-operative started again in 1995 and has been running ever since, selling the soft sculptures to visitors who come North, on the Internet and through distributors. Though the dolls are neither old nor traditionally used by Inuit children, they represent 4,000 years of storytelling.

The stuffed keepsakes depict mostly animal personifications of mother and child, and feature the distinct northern tradition of carrying, or "packing," the child snugly in a baby pouch under the mother's parka hood.

"The women have used these dolls to tell the story of their own lives and natural environments. The Inuit have different ways of approaching the creation of the universe, animals and people. They are quite alive and witty, and they are not following the same narrative we are used to."

One of Bissonnette's favourite dolls depicts the figure of Thundergirl, whose parka carries a lightning child. Though she looks comical, dressed in a blue parka and sporting cartoonish toes and hands, Thundergirl's story is grim. The character's origins come from the story of two abandoned orphans. Left to die, they chose to come back as thunder and lightning, to take revenge on the people who had migrated to new hunting ground and left them.

"There is an edge to these dolls," Bissonnette noted. "Here's this cute little doll, but also a cautionary tale. It's a story of revenge, but also an allegory on how people and the environment are linked."

"In Mother's Hood" is one of several projects celebrating the Canadian Circumpolar Institute's 50th anniversary at the U of A, and was co-curated by history student Christina Williamson.

The exhibit runs to Aug. 3, 2011 in the lobby of the Human Ecology Building on campus.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Jan. 14, 2011

The John H. Meier, Jr. Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction Collection. This exhibition presents examples of first editions of all the titles that have won Canada's prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction from its inception to the present. Noon–4:30 p.m. Rutherford Library.

Until Nov. 9

Mini Medical School. Running every Tuesday for eight weeks, the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry is presenting this lecture series on topics from dentistry and surgery to nutrition and acupuncture. 7–9 p.m. Bernard Snell Hall. Go to www.cpl.ualberta.

Until Sept. 30

Observe the stars in September. Visit the U of A's astronomical observatory every Thursday evening in September from 9–10 p.m. All members of the public are welcome and admission is free. Please see our website for details on how to find the observatory. 9–10 p.m. Fine Arts Building.

Until Sept. 29

Visualizing an Ancient City: Archaeological Research at the Kastro of Kallithea in Greece. What did ancient Greek cities look like? View the results of the archaeological project at the Kastro of Kallithea, a joint venture of the University of Alberta and the 15th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Studies at Larissa in Greece. This exhibition presents visualizations of a heavily fortified Hellenistic city in Thessaly in the form of maps, 3-D models and photographs. Rutherford South Foyer Rutherford Library, North and South.

Sept. 24

Stephen Lewis Keynote Address. Stephen Lewis, author of "Race Against Time" and chair of the Stephen Lewis Foundation—which is dedicated to turning the tide of HIV/AIDS in Africa—will be giving a presentation after a wine and cheese reception as part of the Alberta Council for Global Co-operation's Annual General Meeting. This event will showcase the incredible work being done by many Alberta-based organizations. 6–10 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

Golden Bears Football. vs University of Saskatchewan Huskies. 7 p.m. Foote Field. For more Bears and Pandas athletics go to www.bears.ualberta.ca.

Sept. 25

Alumni Silk Painting Workshop/ Fundraiser. Silk Painting Workshop with Lesley Stafiniak, Proceeds to support the Clothing and Textiles Collection, sponsored by Department of Human Ecology; $75 registration fee (includes class materials), numbers are limited; call to register by Sept. 20. 9:30 a.m.–noon. 130 (Lab) Human Ecology.

Sept. 25

Putting Economics back in the Home – The Failure of the Financial Industry in Teaching Canadians how to Handle their Money. The U of A's Rein Selles and Patricia French will be on hand to discuss the failure of the financial industry in providing money management education for Canadians. 10 a.m.–noon. Human Ecology Building 301 Human Ecology.

Reinvigorating Democracy in Canada: Three Perspectives. With voter turnout declining and regard for politicians plummeting, there is a growing sense that something has to be done to get democracy in Canada back on track. Panelists include Ricardo Acuña of the Parkland Institute, Satya Das, award-winning journalist and founder of Cambridge Strategies and Kim Krushell, Edmonton City Councillor. 12:30–2 p.m. Myer Horowitz Theatre, Students' Union Building.

Sept. 25

5th Annual Hurtig Lecture on the Future of Canada – Featuring Mary Simon. Mary Simon, national leader of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Order of Canada recipient, will deliver the Fifth Annual Hurtig Lecture. Simon's distinguished career has been devoted to advancing Aboriginal rights and achieving social justice for Inuit and other Aboriginal peoples nationally and internationally. Simon argues that "for the lessons of history to have enduring value, awareness of past injustice must inspire determination to correct current injustice." Admission is $10 per person. Register online at www.ualberta.ca/alumni/ weekend. 2:30–4 p.m. at Myer Horowitz Theatre, Students' Union Building.

Sept. 26

Homecoming Concert. University Symphony and Symphonic Wind Ensemble concert. 2 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall. www.ualberta.ca/alumni/reunion.

Sept. 27

The Rhetoric of Silence: The So-Called Silent Indian. Prominent in both cultural anthropological and sociolinguistic scholarship is the "silent Indian," the native person who remains strong, silent and stoic in the face of dominant culture. Noon–1 p.m. 2-06 Pembina Hall.

Sept. 28

Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Societal Wealth Creation in the Family Business Context. Lloyd Steier, U of A distinguished chair in entrepreneurship and family enterprise, will discuss the importance of family business and what is being done to keep it viable. The U of A Calgary Centre. 4:30–6:30 p.m.

Sept. 29

The Changing Dynamics of North American Federalism and the Canada-U.S. Economic Relationship. Earl Fry, professor at Brigham Young University, will be on hand to lead this talk. Noon–1 p.m. 2115 Education Centre.

History of the Political Centre: The Case of The Economist. Andrew Pendakis, professor at the University of Bonn, will give this talk on what exactly constitutes the political centre. 3:30–5 p.m. HC L-3 Humanities Centre.

Sept. 30

SSHRC New Funding Opportunities for Research Partnerships Information Session. Gail Zboch, senior program officer, strategic programs and joint initiatives-SSHRC, will be on hand to provide more information about these funding opportunities. 9 a.m.–noon. Council Chambers University Hall.

CN Trade Relations Forum. John Weekes, former WTO ambassador and Canadian chief negotiator for NAFTA, will present. 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Stollery, fifth floor, Alberta School of Business.

Research Forum, Video Games and Virtual Worlds: Innovative Technologies in Education. 3:30–4:30 p.m. 122 Education South Education Centre.

School of Human Development Inaugural Interdisciplinary Event. Mike Walter, professor in the Department of Medical Genetics, will lead debate on whether genetic testing should be used for diagnosis. 5–6: p.m. Katz Building, Room 1080.

Sept. 30, Oct. 1 & 7

Campus Sustainability Tour. Take a tour of North Campus to find out where and how the university is creating a sustainable campus. From students to faculty and staff to the wider community, everyone's welcome to join the free 1.5 hour walking tour. Spaces are limited. Please RSVP to secure your spot. It runs rain or shine. 3–4:30 p.m. 4-03 General Services Building.

Oct. 1 & 2

Transcending Fraticide: Political Mythologies, Reconciliations, and the Uncertain Future in the Former Yugoslavia. The Faculty of Arts, in co-operation with the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies, is putting on this two-day workshop. For more information go to www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/historyandclassics/TranscedingFraticide.cfm.

Oct. 1

Wondrous Brutal Fictions: Buddhist Sermon-Ballads and Miracle Plays of Seventeenth-Century Japan. Keller Kimbrough, professor at the University of Colorado, will speak about the history of the sekkyô and ko-jôruri puppet theatres, seeking to illuminate the world of Edo-period stage performance while exploring the representational conventions of miracles, interrogations and superhuman feats of resistance in the printed media of 17th-century Japan. 3–4 p.m. Basement 95 Tory Lecture Theatres.

Save the Date – Gathering of the U of A Aboriginal Employees. Any employee who self-identifies as an Aboriginal person is invited to attend a gathering of Aboriginal employees of the U of A for the purpose of building a sense of community. Noon, 122 Education South. vnapoleon@law.ualberta.ca.

Oct. 2

51st Annual Campus Recreation Turkey Trot. Join the fun. 4k fun run/ walk and 8k run. Open to everyone in support of United Way. 10:30 a.m. Butterdome.

Oct. 2

Affair of the Heart. This fundraising dinner, silent auction and fashion show raises money for the Kids with Cancer Society. Paul Grundy, chairperson for the society will speak. Tickets are $55 for students and $80 for faculty. Contact affairoftheheart2010@gmail.com for tickets.

Oct. 5

The National Institutes of Health: Finding Funding & Preparing a Successful Application. 2–3:30 p.m. 2F1.04, Classroom D, U of A Hospital.

Walter Bond – Motivational speech. U of A facilities and operations will be hosting this year's Western Canadian Universities Physical Plant Association conference from Oct 4 to 6, which will feature a motivational speech by former NBA player Walter Bond. The speaking engagement is open to all of campus. 1:30–3 p.m. in the Myer Horowitz Theatre.

Oct. 6

President's Town Hall Meeting. Please join President Indira Samarasekera for a town hall discussion and Q-and-A session. 8:30–9:30 a.m. TL B1, Tory Lecture Theatre Complex (Tory Turtle). Please register online www.president.ualberta.ca/eventrsvp.cfm Enter event code 1089.

Oct. 6

Regulation of child labour in Alberta. Many children and adolescents work in prohibited occupations and/or face violations of minimum statutory requirements for hours of work, wages and deductions. 3:30–5 p.m. Education North, room 7-152.

Distinguished Speaker Lecture Series. James Mitchell, Virgina Tech distinguished professor emeritus in civil engineering, will deliver a lecture titled "Ground Improvement for Mitigation of Seismic Risk to Existing Embankment Dams." 4–6 p.m. Solarium, ETLC.

Oct. 7

Food Safety and Security in an Era of Climate Change. Monkombo Swaminathan, "Father of the Green Revolution in India," and U of A 2010 honorary degree recipient, is the invited speaker for the Bentley Lecture in Sustainable Agriculture/Lester Pearson Memorial Lecture. 3 p.m. Aberhart Centre.

Oct. 8–10

Race-Making and the State: Between Postracial Neoliberalism and Racialized Terrorism. This conference is to explore race-making, anti-racism, decolonization and the state. Lister Centre. www.criticalraceconference.arts.ualberta.ca.

A MUCH-NEEDED MAKEOVER

Photos: Michael Davies-Venn

Michael Davies-Venn

The University of Alberta began a major renovation project involving the skylight replacement and re-roofing of HUB Mall & Residences in December 2009. With the bulk of the work done, the university is looking at the end of the year as a completion date, a full six months ahead of schedule. The project was a planned replacement as part of the university's ongoing deferred maintenance program, which provided the opportunity for the roof replacement.

BRYAN CORBETT
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1

folio
University of Alberta

Page 3
German dreamers
Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research opened, thanks to German co-operation

Page 6
50 years of cold
Circumpolar Institute celebrates half century at the U of A

Page 7
Sustainability Awareness Week
Oct. 18–23

Volume 48 Issue 3 | October 8, 2010 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Fellowship winner reinforces Trudeau ideologies

Jamie Hanlon

For Janine Brodie, being awarded a Trudeau fellowship is, in many ways, like coming full circle.

Though Brodie says winning this prestigious social sciences and humanities research award is a humbling honour, she notes that her first reaction was actually memories of her grandfather, a staunch Liberal and a former Grit candidate in Ontario. When her grandfather took ill, Brodie took his place at the fateful April 1968 Liberal leadership convention that swept Trudeau into the leadership of the party.

"Those memories are still as clear as they were the day after; it was such a transformative moment for me," said Brodie. "[Upon receiving the award] I immediately thought about that."

A self-confessed "Trudeauphile" as a teen, Brodie says she has always respected Trudeau's ideas in relation to social justice. Noting Trudeau's notion of a "just society," an ideology that was realized through policies on immigration and official bilingualism, as well as through the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Brodie says some of the principles Trudeau stood for have stayed with her as a researcher, guiding her career by informing her research questions and ethics.

"Trudeau was clear that he thought democracy had an unrealized potential, and I think that's still the case," she said. "I continue to believe, contrary to popular opinion, that the state is an instrument through which society gives to itself. That is critical."

Brodie also noted that Trudeau believed those in the social sciences had an obligation to critique government policy from the basis of social justice. She says the job of social scientists is to hold government accountable by identifying social inequalities and deficiencies and directing them to better policies and ideals.

continued on page 2

Titanic visit

Michael Holly

Engineering professor Rick Chalaturnyk explains the basics of carbon capture and sequestration in his NINT lab to director James Cameron. The Canadian-born director of Hollywood blockbusters "Titanic" and "Avatar" was on campus Oct. 6 to hear about the extensive oilsands research happening all across campus and to meet with water scientist David Schindler as part of his fact-finding mission to Alberta about the oilsands.

Former Canadian prime minister and other civic leaders to receive U of A's highest honour

Michael Davies-Venn

A former Canadian prime minister, a human-rights advocate and the current Alberta lieutenant governor will cross the stage during fall convocation ceremonies at the University of Alberta Nov. 17 and 18.

The U of A will confer honorary doctors-of-laws degrees on Kim Campbell, Canada's first female prime minister; Donald Ethell, one of Canada's most experienced peacekeepers and Alberta's lieutenant governor, and Yvonne Shi-Wan Chiu, a U of A alumna and champion of immigrant and refugee rights.

"One of our core university values is enlightened service that builds citizenship. Each of these individuals has made exemplary contributions to our society as informed and engaged global citizens," said U of A Chancellor Linda Hughes.

Engaging with the global community has been a mark of Ethell's life. During his service with the military, the veteran peacekeeper engaged in 14 peace-support missions to several countries including Israel and Egypt. Shortly before retiring, Ethel was the Canadian head of the European community's military mission to the former Yugoslavia in 1992.

Although Ethell left the military in 1993, he did not give up his lifetime commitment to global peace. He donned a new hat, this time as a humanitarian, helping refugees in eastern Kenya and Somalia. Students from the faculties of arts, engineering, agricultural, life and environmental sciences, business, nursing and native studies, as well as Campus Saint-Jean and Augustana, will receive their degrees with Ethel during convocation.

As Canada's only female prime minister, Campbell continues to serve beyond the shores of her native country, decades after been at the helm of Canadian politics. She remains a strong advocate for the advancement of women, democratic development and nuclear non-proliferation. Campbell, Canada's 19th prime minister, now works to foster democracy worldwide, serving as chair of the World Movement for Democracy. Campbell also served as secretary general of the Club of Madrid, an organization of former heads of government and states who work to promote democratization.

Supplied

(L-R) Yvonne Shi-War Chiu, Kim Campbell and Donald Ethell will cross the stage during the U of A's fall convocation Nov. 17 and 18.

continued on page 2

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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Can bacteria clean up oilsands tailings?

Richard Cairney

A University of Alberta engineering professor is conducting one-of-a-kind research monitoring groundwater beneath oilsands tailings ponds—and investigating whether bacteria can protect groundwater and clean up the tailings ponds.

Ania Ulrich, a researcher in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has been working with Suncor Energy to monitor groundwater beneath a new tailings pond. Ulrich has samples of the groundwater taken before tailings from the oilsands were poured into the pond, and regularly analyzes samples to see if there is any seepage of tailings into the groundwater channel. If there is any seepage, Ulrich wants to know if bacteria can clean it up.

"This is the first time anyone has been able to study a pond before a drop of water went into it," said Ulrich. "By looking at how pond water migrates into the underlying groundwater channels and the role native bacteria play, we may be able to use bioremediation to clean up the water underneath these tailings ponds."

Ulrich, Suncor and a research colleague at Alberta Innovates – Technology Futures have also built a small tailings pond of their own, adjacent to the tailings pond they are studying.

Supplied

Engineering professor Ania Ulrich is researching ways that microbes can clean up toxic ponds.

While Ulrich's colleague at Alberta Innovates tracks the infiltration of the tailings water with isotopes, Ulrich tests the groundwater beneath the pond for salts, metals and naphthenic acids—evidence of seeping tailings—and looks at naturally occurring bacteria living in the groundwater to see if it is capable of breaking these chemicals down.

And because groundwater inches along at incredibly slow speeds—as slow as metres per year—Ulrich and research partners are able to conduct "push-pull" tests, in which tailings water is analyzed, injected into the groundwater, then drawn back out of the groundwater to see what changes if any occurred.

"By looking at how pond water migrates into the underlying groundwater channels and the role native bacteria play, we may be able to use bioremediation to clean up the water underneath these tailings ponds," said Ulrich.

Ulrich's research is interdisciplinary in nature—bringing engineering and microbiology together.

"I look at the bacteria in groundwater to see the capacity of existing bacteria to do this, or determine if we have to add a chemical oxidant to help them, or if we should add nutrients to get those existing bacteria to work more effectively," she said.

"I am able to identify the organisms involved and if you can prove that a certain gene is turned on, you can prove that it is eating the compound—that it isn't just a case of the contaminants going somewhere else."

Trudeau Fellowship

continued from page 1

As a political scientist, her Trudeau fellowship research project delivers on that Trudeau-esque idea, she says.

"The idea—that the award is about promoting research productivity and research impact, but also about concern for social justice, is the basis of the honour for me," she said.

Brodie will use the $225,000 research prize, which is spread over three years, to look at issues of globalization and neo-liberalism of governance, specifically an erosion of the notion of collective responsibility and its relation to governance. Brodie says that, in the post-Trudeau era, there has been a shift of this social responsibility from the federal level to the provincial and municipal levels and to individual families.

Janine Brodie

"In relation to social governance, I increasingly think about federalism as 'doughnut federalism'—there's no centre in relation to social governance," she said. "The provinces have struggled with this for 10 to 15 years and there's been no coherent response."

Brodie's work will examine the six Canadian provinces that have implemented anti-poverty and poverty reduction strategies in the past eight years. Her focus will be on the genesis and the composition of the policies, determining, she says "how much is commitment and how much is rhetoric." By looking at the goals and the strategy to "rethink social policy in a global era," she wants to be able to measure whether the policies are having an impact.

"I want to explore what we call policy diffusion," she says. "If the federal government no longer takes the role of policy thinking and policy leadership, where does new thinking about new policies come from?"

Her research will take her from the macro (global policy influences such as the World Bank) to the micro (studying an imported trend of anti-poverty activism called the "living wage campaign"). The research itself will be, in her words, "the study of watching where social thinking relocates in an era of globalization. "

Seemingly, all things lead back to Trudeau, says Brodie, since he once argued that the provinces could be used for experimental modelling of social justice projects. Despite the legacy he left behind, Brodie doubts whether Trudeau's model of a federal government can ever be retrieved in this era of globalization and North American integration.

Yet, she is almost certain that he would approve of the research she is doing to analyze these new developments in social policy.

"To the extent that we're looking at the potential shifting of innovative social thinking in the provinces," she said. "I think he'd be happy that I critiqued that.

"I hope he'd smile on it."

Honorary Degree

continued from page 1

This is not the first time that Chiu has received a degree from the U of A, but this time, the university is celebrating the works of an alumna who left its classrooms and walked into the streets of Edmonton with a commitment to make a difference in the lives of refugees and immigrants to the city.

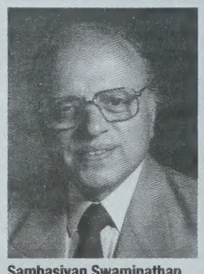
Having founded Edmonton's Multicultural Health Brokers Co-operative, the Healthy Community Development Network and the Health Care Citizenship Project, Chiu is recognized for leading transformative changes in the health, social services, employment and early education sectors to the benefit of people from various ethnic groups in Edmonton.

Chiu will join in celebrations with graduands from the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine and School of Public Health. Close to 1,000 students are expected to cross the stage at the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium during the two days of convocation ceremonies.

"Through their incredible dedication to serving and improving society, our honorary degree recipients have inspired and transformed. Their accomplishments are truly uplifting," said U of A President Indira Samarasekera. "I am delighted that we are welcoming these remarkable people to

Swaminathan honoured for agricultural advocacy

Inspired by India's independence in 1947 and driven by a desire to see his country hunger free, Monkombo Sambasivan Swaminathan has led a global movement in sustainable food security.



Sambasivan Swaminathan

In recognition of his efforts over the last half-century, Swaminathan received a University of Alberta honorary doctor of science degree Oct. 7.

Swaminathan is a pioneer of the green revolution and a leader in his country on science and technology, said Nat Kav, associate dean of the U of A's Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences.

"His contributions have been in the areas of science, in plant breeding and genetics, followed by taking that science to the level of the farmer and being concerned about gender equity and about the poorest of the poor—that's what I think makes him stand out," said Kav. "In this day and age, with climate change and everything else looming and threatening our food security, he has always advocated for sustainable agriculture and what he calls an 'evergreen revolution,' which is not just sustainable today but generations beyond."

A German dream made real in Alberta

Michael Davies-Venn

Canadian researchers and industry leaders wanting to connect with colleagues in Germany will benefit from the Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research launched at the University of Alberta Oct. 5.

"Three years ago the German Federal Foreign Office launched an initiative aimed at the promotion of academic and scientific exchange between Germany and the world," said Georg Witschel, ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Canada. "At that time it was nothing but a mere dream to bring one of the cornerstones of the initiative, the German Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research, to Edmonton.

"Some of the attendees here [at the launch] are among those who dreamed and never gave up on it."

As a result of the tenacity—a trait the ambassador says is characteristic of Albertans—Edmonton is in the esteemed company of five other major cities, including New York and Moscow, where similar centres have been established. Bernd Reuscher, honorary consul of the Federal Republic of Germany, says the U of A's privileged position in Germany helped make the dream a reality.

"One argument for the proposal was because of the strong ties of the U of A with German universities, research foundations and industry. The U of A was uniquely positioned to play a leadership role in this new concept, [because it] currently has 16 partnerships with German universities and research foundations."

At the centre's dedication, U of A Provost Carl Amrhein talked about how the new centre delivers both on the expectations placed on the university to do everything that universities normally do by way of education, as well as serve the needs of the province and act as an incubator and connector between industry and researchers.

"This is a complex set of missions, and it's a wonderful day when we celebrate a major example of how the U of A meets those requirements. We're very pleased that our facility joins the list of such major initiatives financed by Germany," said Amrhein.

Housed at Enterprise Square, the centre will be a one-stop hub for Canadian universities, research institutions and industry leaders. "The centre aims to foster collaborative scientific research of new technologies between Germany and Canada," said Witschel. "It serves to promote excellence. It will provide a venue for scholars, researchers and the business community for our two countries and promote close international co-operation with distinguished partners in research and innovation."

Reuscher added that Germany is the perfect partner for Canada. "Germany is a country with huge scientific and technological capabilities and a strong tradition of international partnership and collaboration. We know from our contacts in Germany that they are interested in finding partners here in Canada to participate in research or introduce technology applications."

Reuscher said the centre in Edmonton is set up differently than those in Tokyo, Delhi or Sao Paulo. While those represent German innovation abroad, the local centre facilitates engagement between Canada and Germany.

"This centre in Edmonton is the only one that is binational," Reuscher said. "It will dramatically change the way researchers, industry and institutions connect in Germany."

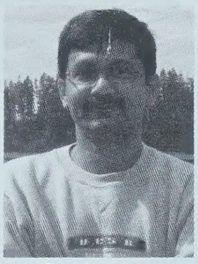
Michael Davies-Venn

(L-R) Britta Baron, U of A vice-provost and vice-president, international, Georg Witschel, ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Canada, and U of A provost and vice-president, academic, Carl Amrhein, cut the ribbon to launch the sixth worldwide German Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research.

Creating a more global engineer

Michael Brown

A chemical and materials engineering professor has developed a pilot project that sees University of Alberta engineering students collaborate with like students abroad on a socially relevant project.



Vinay Prasad

Vinay Prasad has been awarded $87,430 from the U of A's Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund to develop a proposal entitled "Project-Based Global Service Learning for Engineers." He says the funding will help engineering students working to construct a small-scale bio refinery—which converts waste biomass into useful fuels and chemicals—to cover the cost of their experiments and travel to meet up with team members at one of the U of A's partner institution, the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, India.

"The project helps students have the experience of working on a design-related problem as part of a global, cross-cultural team in collaboration with students from another institution," said Prasad. "The students 'learn by doing,' and have control over the choice of socially relevant problem and the solution approach.

"They benefit from having interactions with the students and faculty of the other institution, and gain exposure to other worldviews and philosophies of education and engineering."

All told, five U of A engineering students and an equal number of their ITT Bombay counterparts will spend the next year working on a compact biomass converter that can fit in the back of a trailer and is built to work in remote areas with little or no power.

In the end, Prasad says possible outcomes of the partnerships include development of personal skills of students related to communication, understanding of issues at the interface of the technology and society, and taking ownership of open-ended problems by being involved in their selection. Prasad also sees his faculty benefitting from the emergence of new learning models for interaction with students in collaboration with other institutions.

"The ideal outcome would be for socially transformative technology to emerge from the projects," said Prasad. "If nothing else, this project will make use of the students' core competence in technical issues and places it in an environment of social responsibility and civic engagement."

The TLEF, launched in 2006, supports innovative projects at the U of A that create exceptional learning experiences and environments for students.

A break from the flock

Brian Murphy

The old proverb, "Birds of a feather flock together," might be in need of a rewrite, according to University of Alberta findings about chickadees.

Lead researcher Lauren Guillette says the first step in their research involved looking at how the song birds check out new territory.

"We characterized our chickadees as fast explorers or slow explorers," said Guillette, and the chickadees were then released into a large room lined with artificial trees. Researchers recorded how many trees, if any, the birds visited. Fast explorers flew to more trees, while slow explorers either stayed at the entrance or visited only a couple of trees.

Guillette, a PhD provisional candidate in psychology, says fast explorers are bold and go straight for what they want, while slow explorers are shy and take their time.

"Bold animals are generally more aggressive in pursuit of food or a mate," said Guillette. "But a shy or cautious animal might be a harder target for predators and might have a longer life."

To push their knowledge of how different animal personalities might adapt to situations in the wild, the researchers put the fast and slow exploring chickadees to a learning test.

The birds were offered two separate recorded types of notes of chickadee sounds but only one was associated with a food reward. Guillette says both the fast and slow explorers caught on quickly and learned the rules of the task, but when the food-reward signal was switched to the other type of notes, the shy birds adapted more quickly than the bold chickadees.

"A lot of researchers had theorized that slow exploring birds will adapt faster to a changing environment, but we are among the first to actually put the theory to the test," said Guillette.

Outside the laboratory in the real world of chickadees, Guillette says a slow explorer's adaptability advantage shows itself when there's a change in its environment. That change could be the food supply, which could be affected by something as simple as the temporary absence of a homeowner who routinely filled a backyard bird feeder.

The researchers are cautious about linking bold and shy chickadees to human characteristics, but study co-author and U of A psychology researcher Chris Sturdy says there could be similarities. "If you wanted to anthropomorphize the research, the bold ones would be the charge straight ahead, go get 'em type of person."

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Maureen Winchester, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Sept. 24 "Are You a Winner?" contest, after she correctly identified the object in the photo as the west doors of the Timms Centre. For correctly identifying the photo in question, Winchester has won a copy of "Locating the Past/Discovering the Present: Perspectives on Religion, Culture and Marginality," edited by David Gay and Stephen Reimer, courtesy of the University of Alberta Press. This collection examines the production and recreation of religious ideas and images in different times and locations throughout history and around the world.

Up for grabs this week is a copy of "The Contemporary Arab Reader on Political Islam," courtesy of the U of A Press. Addressing the key issues such as Shari'ah, human rights, civil society, secularism, globalization and ummah, and the impact of the West on the modern Arab world, this book is the perfect starting point for students and academics looking to understand "political Islam" in contemporary Arab and Muslim societies. To win a copy, simply identify where on campus the object of the picture is located. Email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Oct. 15, and you will be entered into the draw.

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University 101

Board of Governors: 'nose in, fingers out'

If there are aspects to the University of Alberta that you don't understand, chances are you're not alone. The university can be a complicated entity with many moving parts. To assist the campus community in better understanding who does what and how things get done at the university folio *is introducing a new feature called University 101. This issue's topic is the second of a five-part series on governance.*

Michael Brown

The conduct, management and control of the University of Alberta and all its property, revenue, business and affairs are vested in the U of A's board of governors.

A heady list of responsibilities for the 21-member group made up mainly of volunteers, who hold management to account for the long-term plan, the strategic direction of the institution and managing the budget, while remaining "non-operational," says Mike Percy, dean of the U of A's Alberta School of Business, and noted authority on governance.

"There is a phrase, 'nose in, fingers out,' which means members of a board of governors or board of directors have a fiduciary responsibility to the organization to act in its best interests," while remaining at arm's length, said Percy. "As a board member, you discharge that responsibility by doing due diligence and the types of questions you ask.

"Essentially, the board of governors understands the day-to-day [operations of the university], but they are once removed. They have a longer-term focus, and they ensure that the management team, in this case the president, the provost and all the vice-presidents, are executing all the agreed-upon strategic plans."

The U of A's board of governors operates autonomously from the day-to-day operations of the university, receiving all of its authority and guiding principles from the provincial government's post-secondary learning act.

The 21-member board consists of a chair, the chancellor, the president, a mix of staff, student and alumni representatives, and nine members of the public, all of whom are selected by way of a detailed and transparent screening process approved through the minister of advanced education and technology's office.

> "A good functioning board is one that is independent of management but understands the pressures that management is under."
>
> Mike Percy

"Good boards are often diverse," said Percy. "You'll often have one or two chartered accountants, a lawyer, as well as those who understand the business; in short, individuals who bring a series of different skills to the board."

These members are big-picture thinkers, says Marion Haggarty-France, university secretary in the U of A's governance unit. She says the board provides for the maintenance and approval of new buildings; it has the authority to purchase and acquire property; it fixes the various fees charged in connection with university courses; it makes financial provision for the establishment of new faculties, departments and courses; and appoints the U of A president.

"I like to say the board is the business side of the university," said Haggarty-France. It has senior oversight of the institution; it concerns itself with the long-range planning and the business affairs of the institution.

Nothing outlines the board's responsibilities better than the titles of its seven standing committees outlined by the post-secondary learning act: the Board University Relations Committee (to be changed from the Board Community and Government Relations Committee pending board approval Oct. 15); the Board Audit Committee; the Board Finance and Property Committee; the Board Human Resources and Compensation Committee; the Board Investment Committee; the Board Safety, Health, and the Environment Committee; and the Board Learning and Discovery Committee.

"Universities would like to populate those committees with individuals who have certain expertise, who will act as good ambassadors for the university," said Percy. "A good functioning board is one that is independent of management but understands the pressures that management is under."

Joan Burke, manager of board services and secretary to the board of governors, says that the chair and vice-chair of each committee is generally selected from the public members of the board, and, depending on the committee, some external expertise is welcomed. "Audit, for example, is a committee where all members aren't board members, but non-board members provide valued expertise in areas where the audit committee is mandated. Another, the Board Investment Committee, requires a level of expertise that not all members would feel comfortable with, but has external members that serve in that role on the committee."

Just as the post-secondary learning act gives authority to the board, Haggarty-France says the board has delegated a great deal of authority to the committees to act and make decisions on its behalf.

"With regards to a human-resources issue, the Board Human Resources and Compensation Committee would have authority to approve a mandate for negotiations that administration would put forward," said Haggarty-France. "Of course, the board approves any final collective agreement that has been negotiated.

"On the other hand, the BFPC committee reviews the budget, the capital plan and the university plan and recommend its approval to the full board, but would not have the authority to approve those things."

With so many moving parts, Percy says being a board member entails a singular dedication, whose main satisfaction comes from seeing the university flourish.

"Universities are key players in terms of the community and their impact on the economy, both provincially and nationally. They are complex institutions and are billion-dollar institutions," said Percy. "It can be a lot of work, but I believe board members have a sense that they're helping to build their community."

Association keeps retired professors on campus

Michael Brown

For the University of Alberta's retired faculty, there is an association on campus that allows them to continue their relationships with the campus community. "Somewhere between 150–200 retired professors have joined the Association of Professors Emeriti where they are able to stay plugged into the university community," said Gordon Rostoker, professor emeritus in the Department of Physics and vice-president of the association.

The Association of Professors Emeriti was founded in the mid-1980s, with the goal of retaining in the campus environment the skills and wisdom of retired academics by providing a centre where they could be close to their former faculties and have an opportunity to interact with the campus community. Fast forward a quarter century, and association's activities are centred in an old house on 89 Ave., provided by the university.

"From there, the association organizes several interest groups and activities that bring together the membership, which has been expanded from professors emeriti to include retired academic professional officers, faculty service officers and professional librarians, as well as retired university teaching staff without emeritus status," said Rostoker.

"The most recent interest group to develop is a current events group, which meets monthly to discuss topics of importance to the university and to society as a whole," said Rostoker. "When you get a bunch of articulate and often opinionated academics together, the sparks can really fly in arguments about matters ranging from energy for the future and the moral issues behind euthanasia."

Rostoker says one very successful association activity has been "Lunch with ...." in which invited speakers address members each month in the Papaschase Room of the Faculty Club on a wide range of topics.

"Many members of Association of Professors Emeriti do their best to stay involved in university activities by making themselves available to the administration for committee duties and helping in the supervision of graduate students where their experience and expertise is of value," said Rostoker. "In addition, the association tries to help in the undergraduate aspects of the university and has made a practice of making a sizable annual donation to the Student Emergency Fund."

Any retired members of the university community interested in keeping an involvement with the campus can become a member of the Association of Professors Emeriti by going to www.ualberta.ca/~emirhse.

The molecular makeup of a map librarian

Michael Davies-Venn

staff spotlight

David Jones was training as a molecular biologist in 1970 when he realized that the life of a scientific researcher was not really his dream.

After telling his wife and his parents of his discontent, Jones switched gears and began pursuing an education in library and information science.

Shortly after completing his degree, Jones began work as a librarian at Humber College in Toronto, a job he held for nine years. In 1980, Jones moved his family to Alberta and started working at the University of Alberta as collections co-ordinator with the Science and Technology Library. Today, Jones cares for the William C. Wonders Map Collection, the second-largest map collection in Canada.

"When I was working on becoming a molecular biologist, I was trying to learn everything about a very tiny part of the spectrum of knowledge," said Jones, "but with maps, I learn about many different things. I've worked with people from all sectors of the university and from the community. I am always expanding my knowledge, as well as helping other people expand theirs."

Jones says the dynamic nature of working with the university's library system is one of the main reasons he has come to make the U of A home.

"The university is such a large and vibrant organization that one's job activities continually change," Jones said. "I evolved into the map librarian but I could have gone into half a dozen other areas within the library if I wanted to. I have been able to move in different areas."

Over the years, Jones has watched the libraries grow, as with more than seven million titles and 10 million physical items, the U of A Libraries now has the second largest academic and research collection in Canada and is ranked 12th in North America. But, Jones says the sheer size of the collection is not the only thing that has changed in his 30 years at the U of A

"I remember when the first desktop computer came into the office," he said. "We did not know what we were going to do with it. When I came here we were using the card catalogue, which is one of the things I can still boast about, because I started that far back."

Jones says one the great treasures of the job is the people he works with, many of whom have become more than just colleagues.

"I think of the people I work with as my daytime family," he said. "We work as a team; we respect each other's strengths"

An example of that collaborative work and team spirit was on display in recent exhibition at the Cameron Library that Jones curated called Journeys Beyond the Neatline: Expanding the Boundaries of Cartography.

"It was the first time I've done an exhibition and it was a fascinating learning curve for me, but we had an excellent team," said Jones. "I could not have done it without the others. We all pulled together. Everybody was aiming for the same goal, [because] we all share the same passion and philosophy."

Another recent first for Jones was bringing the oldest map now in the U of A collection to the university. A combination of fate and doing one of the things he loves about his job—helping students—made the catch possible.

"About three years ago, I made contact with a fellow in Vancouver. He was a Hungarian who came here in 1956 and since then had built a collection of Hungarian materials, books and maps and published a detailed bibliography, one of which was on maps. A graduate student who was using one of the bibliographies brought it to my attention. She had some questions, and in helping her, I tracked down the author, and he ended up donating more than 100 maps, our oldest map being one of them."

The map, titled *Buda*, is part of the Horvath collection at the library and was first published July 12, 1493.

A recipient of an Honorary Alumni Award from the School of Library and Science this year, Jones is not the only one in his family who has come to make the university home.

"Both of my children studied here. My daughter is with the international centre now. My son is finishing his second degree in education and I have a niece who came from Toronto and works in the Centre for Prions and Protein Folding Diseases. I have a son-in-law who's doing a doctorate in political science here, and when my father retired from the National Research Council, he and my mother moved to Edmonton where he continued his work and publication as a guest in the chemistry department. And my mother was part of the Association of Professors Emeriti group until she passed away.

"The U of A has become a family."

Michael Davies-Venn

David Jones looks over a Hungarian map that dates back to July 12, 1493.

teaching & learning, learning & teaching

Teaching students how to apply poli sci

Michael Brown

Guiding her students to the happy middle ground between the best parts of the classroom and experience that only comes with hands-on research helped political-science professor Linda Trimble earn a McCalla Professorship.

"Imagine someone standing in front of the class and saying, 'this is how you develop interview questions, and when you interview people you should say this and that,' as opposed to the students interviewing each other or having an exercise where they actually have to apply what they have in their textbook to real-life interviewing," said Trimble. "I want the students to actually apply [research techniques], rather than study them."

To this end, Trimble is in the process of developing course content for teaching political-science research methods, particularly qualitative methods such as discourse analysis. In addition to incorporating this material in undergraduate and graduate-level courses, Trimble says she plans on designing and leading a methodology workshop for political-science graduate students, providing opportunities for graduate-student publishing and giving presentations to the department on teaching research methods.

"Instead of telling the students, 'here's the research-methods toolbox, you use a hammer to do this, you use the screwdriver to do that,' I want to give them the toolbox and have them use the tools that are actually meaningful to them," she said. "In political science, our honours students have to write a thesis, and many of them do original research and are going onto grad school, so it is important to train them for data collection and analysis."

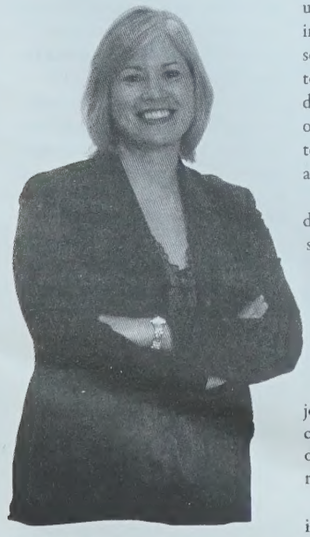
Trimble says in her course on media and politics, for instance, she has students do media-analysis projects, despite having few methodological tools to do so.

"I train them in class and they end up knowing more than they think they do," said Trimble. "They do a fantastic job, but going in I think I can develop clearer and stronger teaching methods for facilitating their learning on research methods."

Introducing hands-on research into her undergraduate classroom is nothing new for Trimble, who says *Dare to Discover*, the university's academic plan, mirrors her own philosophy on discovery-based learning.

"I really appreciate that about the university's vision," said Trimble. "It's the overall approach to teaching and learning at this university that makes discovery-based learning possible, and validates you as a professor when that is what you want to do in the classroom."

The McCalla Professorships provide faculty members with an opportunity to explore and implement strategies integrating their research and teaching. Recipients are outstanding academics who have made significant contributions to their field of research, teaching and learning. The 2010–11 awards provide funding for teaching release, and research and teaching initiatives.



Linda Trimble

Book in the works

As part her professorship, Trimble says she is also hoping to soon finish a book she is writing that looks at media coverage of women prime ministers in Canada, New Zealand and Australia at various points in their political careers.

"Because the norms of political leadership are based on the performance of male prime ministers when women assume that position, their qualifications and their skills are considered to be somewhat questionable," she said. "Basically, women prime ministers are treated differently by the press because of their gender and that manifests itself in a variety of ways including 'lipsticks and hemlines coverage' to quite negative assessments of their leadership skills."

Prof inducted into Canadian Academy of Health Sciences

Donna Richardson

If it means that he will be in a stronger position to increase awareness about critical global health issues, then Walter Kipp is happy to be inducted as a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

"Generally, I'm not too keen on awards," said Kipp, a global health professor in the School of Public Health. "But, I like the idea of using this recognition to get important issues on the table and to use my expertise to collaborate with colleagues."

Kipp's interest in global health sprouted in the early 1980s when he served as a physician in Uganda. His exposure to the health needs of Ugandans prompted him to pursue further training.

Armed with his PhD in international health from Johns Hopkins University, Kipp returned to Uganda. There, he was stunned by the tremendous need for applied research in infectious diseases and committed to doing something about it.

Perhaps one of Kipp's most important contributions—and one of which he is very proud—is the comprehensive HIV/AIDS control and prevention program he led in Western Uganda. This highly successful program resulted in a decrease in HIV infections in young pregnant girls from 33 per cent in 1991 to five per cent in 2005.

Since joining the U of A in 1997, he has devoted all of his scholarly work and graduate teaching to global health.

"Dr. Kipp is an outstanding academic who has been a mainstay of a vibrant global health initiative in our faculty," said Sylvie Stachenko, dean of the School of Public Health. "Besides his research accomplishments, he has been extremely active in training the next generation of global health researchers and practitioners."

Fellows of the Academy are elected on the basis of their demonstrated leadership, creativity, distinctive competencies and commitment to advance academic health sciences.

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Circumpolar Institute marks 50 years of researching the poles

The exhibit to mark the 50th anniversary of the U of A's Canadian Circumpolar Institute features equipment and artifacts of Arctic, Antarctic and Northern Canada research at the U of A. (Below) Visitors get an up-close look at ice monitoring equipment at the exhibit includes the EM Bird, a four metre-long, torpedo-shaped device that is slung beneath a helicopter and uses electromagnetic rays to record the thickness of sea ice.

Brian Murphy

The University of Alberta is celebrating 50 years of polar research with a museum exhibition that shows some of the changes witnessed and documented by the university over the last half century.

The exhibition, which opened to the public Oct.7, is a collaboration between the Canadian Circumpolar Institute and the University of Alberta Museums. The institute is based at the U of A and supports and promotes interdisciplinary research in circumpolar regions including Northern Canada, the Arctic and Antarctica. It is involved with more than 200 U of A researchers and the 50th anniversary exhibition represents just a fraction of the polar artifacts and artwork held by the university's museum collections.

"The goal is to document change in the polar regions," said CCI director Marianne Douglas.

A radio transmitter collar, built tough enough to survive an Arctic journey around the neck of a polar bear, is also part of the display. "The data collected by the radio signals tells researchers about the movements of polar bears," said Douglas. "The collars document the bear's struggle to adapt to drastic reductions in sea-ice cover."

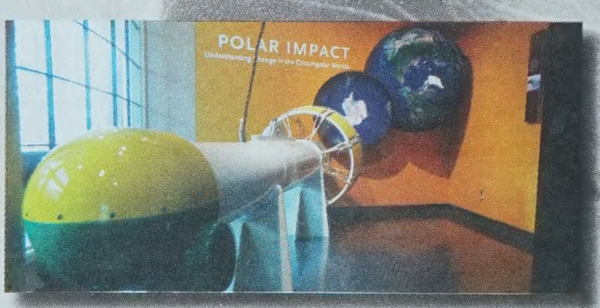
There's another animal pivotal to CCI research, a stuffed pika, a tiny member of the rabbit family. The pika is a vegetarian and as climate change extends the tree line northward, Douglas says institute researchers are finding species of the animal moving further north and at higher altitudes.

Deciding which pieces best reflected the exhibition theme of understanding change in the circumpolar world was a tough job, says Ellen Cunningham, manger of exhibitions and outreach for U of A Museums.

Cunningham says they wanted artifacts, art pieces and scientific equipment that researchers currently use to measure polar changes. As museum workers were putting the finishing touches on the exhibition for a preview showing tonight, Cunningham says everyone was holding their breath waiting for an important piece of science gear was still in transit from northern Europe.

"The EM Bird sea-ice monitoring equipment was in Norway a week ago today and it arrived here by truck from the Calgary airport just this morning," she said two days before the exhibit's opening.

Polar Impact: Understanding Change in the Circumpolar Worlds runs until Nov. 20 in the U of A Museums Gallery A, located in the TELUS Centre.



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Sustainability Awareness Week

What does sustainability look like?

Michael Brown

Beyond the colourful recycling stations, sustainability at the University of Alberta hides in plain sight.

Thus, in an effort to cast some natural light on some of the sustainable deeds being undertaken at the U of A, the Office of Sustainability has been holding Campus Sustainability tours.

"When it comes to campus sustainability, there is more going on than the eye reveals, but until somebody points it out you would never know," said Remi Charron, sustainability projects intern, tour guide and U of A master's in education student.

Held every other Friday, Charron says the main purpose of the tours is to educate staff, students and prospective students about the leadership role the U of A is playing in creating sustainable practices and policies.

"We want to educate the campus community," said Charron. "There are a lot of things being done, but students walking through the campus would have no idea what our grass-cutting policy is by just looking at the grass. The tour makes explicit some of the things we are working on."

The guide says the tour also works as a recruitment tool.

"On one of the first tours I gave, there were two sisters looking to enter into university and actually took the tour to see what the university was doing on the sustainability front. It was something that meant a lot to them and was a determining factor as to what school they were going to attend," said Charron. "Sustainability on campus is a huge component with respect to prospective students looking for schools that value sustainability."

The tour starts on the General Services Building's fifth floor, where Charron takes his troops through a virtual tour of the sustainability initiatives too vast to visit on a quick walking tour, including the Campus Community Garden and the new East Campus Village Graduate Student Residences, which were awarded silver in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System, which are presented annually to encourage and promote sustainable, green building and development practices globally.

From there, the tour heads to the Students' Union Building, home of a number of sustainability initiatives, including Safe Walk, the Campus Food Bank and ECOS, the Environmental Co-ordination Office of Students, to name just a few.

Charron says along the way he likes to point out the nuances of campus sustainability, such as the Connect by Hertz car-share program—the first of its kind in Canada—the anti-idling Care For Our Air initiative, the fleet of zero-emission grounds crew vehicles and even the length of the university keeps its grass.

Michael Brown

Remi Charron stops at one of his Campus Sustainability Tour highlights, the ECOS naturalization project in the Education courtyard.

"The grounds crew raised the blades on their mowers from two inches to three inches, which allows them to cut the grass every seven days instead of every five," said Charron.

The tour end ups at the Education Building, which features full recycling stations on every floor as well as a naturalization project in the courtyard run by ECOS.

> "When it comes to campus sustainability, there is more going on than the eye reveals, but until somebody points it out you would never know."
>
> Remi Charron

"The naturalization project highlights the benefits of native plants and trees," said Charron. "We discuss the value of native vegetation as opposed to the maintenance requirements of foreign species. We talk about biodiversity, root systems and even evolution."

Charron's gem of the tour, however, is Triffo Hall, the university's LEED gold building and the most sustainable building on any of the U of A's five campuses.

"Triffo Hall is not only esthetically pleasing, it has some pretty nifty features," he said, pointing out the rain collector on the roof, which is used to supplement water use in the building. More than 80 per cent of the spaces in the building are naturally lit. "The building was originally constructed in 1915, so there is always a debate whether it would be better to demolish and reconstruct from nothing, or do what the university did. In terms of the reuse of materials, starting again is quite negative because you are tearing down something that has a lot of value and replacing it with new materials."

While Triffo Hall is Charron's favourite stop on the tour, his surprise is the industry-leading sustainability initiatives undertaken by Aramark, the company that has the contracts for most of the U of A's dining services. In addition to an extensive composting program, Aramark is piloting a reuse program for containers. For Aramark's sustainability practices, the company was named one of Canada's top 50 greenest employers—as was the U of A.

"Some of their practices and policies are really cool," said Charron. "They are dedicated to sustainable practices, like the U of A.

"Partnerships like that are why the university is a leader in sustainability."

SAW highlights the university's green side

Folio Staff

An art exhibition, a bike-powered party, various workshops and film screenings, a lecture from the acclaimed author Chris Turner, and a building tour of Triffo Hall, the U of A's greenest building, are just a few of the more than 40 events happening during this year's Sustainability Awareness Week at the University of Alberta.

The goal of Sustainability Awareness Week is to educate the campus community on how to become more aware of sustainability issues, learn more about campus sustainability and develop sustainability skills of their own. The week of events is co-ordinated by the Office of Sustainability with the help of more than 25 student groups and campus organizations.

The week's official kick-off takes place on Monday, Oct. 18, in Quad on North Campus. President Indira Samarasekera, along with Students' Union President Nick Dehod, and the Director of Sustainability, Trina Innes, will open the week. On Oct. 19 at 5 p.m., one of Canada's leading writers and speakers on sustainability and the global clean-tech industry, Chris Turner, will offer a sneak preview of his soon-to-be released book on the global sustainability movement. The author of the 2007 bestseller *The Geography of Hope: A Tour of the World We Need* will present a field guide to making the big jump from the world's unsustainable track to a sustainable one.

On Oct. 21, participants will be guided through the LEED gold-certified Triffo Hall by the renovation's architect. The tour will highlight the features that help make the building the greenest on campus, and will showcase features including rainwater capture and re-use, day-lighting, natural ventilation and extensive materials reuse. Also on Oct. 21 will be a guided tour of the Art Gallery of Alberta's newest exhibition Edward Burtynsky's Oil. This important exhibition follows internationally acclaimed Canadian artist Edward Burtynsky's decade-long photographic exploration of the subject of oil. Burtynsky's large-scale photographs explore three aspects of oil: extraction and refinement, motor culture and the end of oil. The 55 works in this exhibition present a new, modern landscape, altered by industry and human intervention.

The week will end off with the Party with a Purpose in Dinwoodie Lounge Oct. 22. Attendees will enjoy a locally-sourced dinner and locally brewed beer. After dinner, 10 bike generators will power live music from Jom Comyn, Boogie Patrol and Holly Arntzen and Kevin Wright with their Dream Band. Tickets are $15 for both the dinner and concert, or $10 for one event. Grab tickets from Campus Sustainability Coalition, Music is a Weapon, Environmental Co-ordination Office of Students, Edmonton Bicycle Commuters' Society or InfoLink booths. For a complete schedule of events go to www.sustainability.ualberta.ca.

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- Learn more about campus sustainability
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Literacy is going to the dogs

Jamie Hanlon

University of Alberta researcher Lori Friesen's classroom assistants are very attentive, love to listen to children read and can keep their composure in a classroom full of energetic Grade 2 students. However, her assistants are more likely to lick the students' faces than give them a gold star.

Friesen's says her work with her "literacy dogs," Tango and Sparky, in one city-area classroom yielded some highly positive successes for the children and her research.

In Friesen's research, children signed up for weekly reading or writing sessions with her and one of the dogs. During that time, they would read student-selected, high-quality children's literature, or work on the student's writing.

Friesen said the small group work seemed to ease some children's trepidation when it came to reading aloud. Using picture cues or clues to provide context in the story, Friesen helped students learn new words or overcome challenges with other words—lessons, she says, the students grasped and applied to try and help the dogs understand new words as well. She said that the students perceived her dogs as "little buddies," whose presence encouraged the students to read aloud.

However, Friesen, whose findings will be published in an upcoming edition of the journal *Language & Literacy*, is reluctant to call her work "animal-assisted therapy," since she says the notion does not accurately reflect what she and her dogs do when working with the children. Friesen notes that any classroom activities she and her dogs undertake have to align with curriculum outcomes.

> "Animal-assisted literacy learning is about how children experience literacy learning in a safe, supportive, effective, meaningful and exciting learning environment."
>
> Lori Friesen

"This is a goal-oriented activity; we're not doing therapy with children," said Friesen. "Animal-assisted literacy learning is about how children experience literacy learning in a safe, supportive, effective, meaningful and exciting learning environment."

Further, quiet opportunities to cuddle with the dogs while working closely with their classmates and with a caring adult seemed to provide a special form of support for these children's classroom literacy learning.

Friesen notes that Grade 2 is a crucial time period for students developing the potential to become lifelong readers, or to turn away from reading. However, the dogs seemed to be an important catalyst in the children's motivation to display and engage in a committed habit of reading.

"One-third of the class began reading to or writing with their own dogs at home, and were choosing to read when otherwise they wouldn't," she explained. "Their parents reported that these children didn't used to talk about school at home, but now when they got to the dinner table, the parents heard all about Tango's favourite books—it was the first time they actually knew what their children were reading at school."

Friesen said the impact this work had on the children was remarkable. She also noted that the reaction from parents was positive in terms of how motivated children were to read with the dogs. In fact, one child's parents noted that he refused to go on a family vacation because it meant he was going to miss a turn. Many of the parents also noted that if their child was lacking motivation to go to school, if they were reminded that Tango and Sparky were going to be there, they'd be at the door in no time at all.

"The classroom teacher, as well as many of the parents, noticed positive changes in the children's reading behaviours and an increase in their confidence," she said. "The children were constantly learning and engaging with text in new ways. This is what literacy should be about for children."

Supplied

Lori Friesen uses "literacy dogs" to stimulate children's love of literacy.

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada | Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada | Canada
NSERC CRSNG | CIHR IRSC

Tri-Council Monitoring Visit
Information Session
Thursday, October 21, 2-4 p.m.
Engineering Solarium (ETLC 2-100)

All U of A researchers who hold Tri-Council funding are strongly encouraged to attend.

The session will include:
- A presentation and discussion on topics such as the use of grant funds and the roles and responsibilities of the University and Tri-Council agencies; and
- A Q&A session with Tri-Council representatives.

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2) "You helped me lost 35 lbs. & my blood pressure reduced from 180/110 to 125/85. My 20 yrs neck & shoulder pain was gone."– A senior staff of U of A.
3) "I had sever sciatic pain from spinal stenosis, disc bulges & spinal cyst which are not operable. In 2 months, Dr. He has liberated me from most of the pain!"— A senior staff of U of A

Guru of information quality garners Martha Cook Piper Research Prize

Geoff McMaster

In 2005, a 64-year-old Pakistan refugee was deemed inadmissible to Canada because of his alleged connections to terrorism. Iftikhar Shoaq Jalil's case went to appeal, and U of A library scientist Lisa Given was called in to assess the quality of evidence, including documents submitted by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.

Lisa Given

What Givens found was shocking she says. While there was certainly legitimate police intelligence among court documents, it was supplemented by a substantial amount of information drawn from questionable sources, such as media reports, Wikipedia, independent blogs and terrorist portals.

"In some cases there was absolutely no citation or referencing, no way to verify [the information]," says Givens. The case, and especially Givens contribution to it, was ground-breaking—the first, in fact, to identify deficiencies in evidence used by the federal government to connect a defendant to a terrorist organization.

Since then Givens has testified for 16 high-profile cases as well as a review of the information assessment practices of CSIS. Only nine years after finishing her doctorate, the acting director of the U of A's School of Library and Information Studies has become a world leader in qualitative methodology, specializing in just how people go about finding, compiling and using information.

In roughly a decade of professional life, the recipient of this year's Martha Cook Piper Research Prize has 73 publications to her credit, including the *Sage Encyclopedia of Qualitative Research Methods*, and 218 presentations, including 48 keynote addresses and workshops to more than 1,500 scholars around the world.

Among her many interests is the physical design of libraries and how well they meet the needs of students. In one study she followed a group of U of A undergraduates around campus to see which study spaces they found useful and which were counterproductive. The latter included a floor of the Cameron Library before its recent renovation.

"I remember students would be playing poker, throwing food and jumping on chairs," she said. "What I used to think of as an animal-house approach to university." Such places were clearly conducive to socializing, "but if students really had to knuckle down and do their academic work, they would search out places where they had more privacy, where it was quieter, or where they had better access to equipment."

But it's important to remember there are also those who can't work in quiet spaces, she adds. "We often think we need spaces to be quiet and calm, but I'm one of those people who like noise and movement.

"We tend to have stereotypes about what a library should be. "It's not just about reading and quiet concentration . . . social aspects are also important, so how do we channel that? If people are working on a group project, for example, it's important that they can find a place to brainstorm, be loud and have PowerPoint running, because that's a legitimate use of library space.

"There isn't a one-size-fits-all approach. Everybody is unique and needs their own way to be successful."

In addition to the information needs of students, lawyers and the court system, Givens has also assessed Canadian ethics and integrity practices for social sciences and humanities scholars, and seniors' access to health information online. And if that weren't enough, she has a passion for postmodern critical theory, with a book on the subject forthcoming.

"My area of work, information behaviour, really allows for this lovely mix of disciplines, where I can still play with [Michel] Foucault or [Jacques] Derrida, but there's this lovely pragmatic outcome as well.

"You can pursue your passion. Whether music or chemistry, it doesn't matter—it's the information component that ties us together."

The Martha Cook Piper Research Prize was established to commemorate the significant contribution Martha Piper made to the research community while vice-president, research, and vice-president, research and external affairs, at the U of A between 1993 and 1996.

Moving closer to outdoor recreation not a recipe for being more physically active

Jane Hurly

You'd think that people choosing to live near to outdoor recreation amenities would have a lower body mass index, or BMI, thanks to an increase in all that healthy outdoor activity right on one's doorstep. Yet a new University of Alberta study looking at the relationship between reasons for choosing a neighbourhood to live in, physical activity and BMI, shows that's simply not the case.

Tanya Berry

In fact, researchers found that those who said choosing a neighbourhood that was close to outdoor recreation opportunities was important to them actually showed an increase in BMI over the six years of a longitudinal study conducted from 2002 to 2008, and led by Tanya Berry of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation.

"One of the things we analyzed in this paper was the movers and non-movers," says Berry. "Those who had moved over the six years of the study and had indicated that choosing a neighbourhood for ease of walking was very important to them had a very stable BMI and didn't change much over the six years.

Berry and her team conducted two studies, one longitudinal (from 2002–2008 with 822 participants) and one cross-sectional (2008 with 1,505 participants), to look at the relationship between BMI and neighbourhood walkability, socio-economic status, reasons for choosing their neighbourhood, how physically active they were, fruit and vegetable intake, and demographic variables such as age, gender, job status and education, which were self-reported.

Berry says the relationship between those who chose to move to a walkable neighbourhood and BMI was clear. "For those people who had moved for ease of walking and who thought it was important, their BMIs didn't change and they were able to maintain their weight. But for those for whom it was not important at all, they showed an increase in BMI and that was matched with the cross-sectional data."

Berry says that, as expected, those in lower socio-economic status neighbourhoods had higher BMIs. "Socio-economic status is an important factor and we really should be paying more attention to how to help people in lower SES neighbourhoods overcome health barriers they face.

"Those who are choosing neighbourhoods because they can walk are, at least in terms of BMI, the healthiest of all. So this is a very important factor in the built environment/BMI relationship and needs further study."

The study was published in the *International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*.

> "Those who are choosing neighbourhoods because they can walk are, at least in terms of BMI, the healthiest of all."
>
> Tanya Berry

Discovery may lead to addiction prevention

Quinn Phillips

Dopamine makes you feel good, and when the neurotransmitter is released in the brain it helps cells develop and learn. This process is called reward-cued memories and can be a major contributor to addiction and obesity, says Bill Colmers in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta. But his research group has found a way to halt this action.

This discovery may lead to preventative measures for addiction to drugs and treatment for obesity.

"Obese people can often become very fixated on their fridge," said Colmers. "So using drugs in the appropriate fashion, for example, might be able to disassociate the idea of reward and place."

Rewards, such as high-caloric foods or substances of abuse such as cocaine, heroin and amphetamines, cue the release of the chemical messenger dopamine. Colmers and his research group found that dopamine aided in developing spatial memories, which are memories of where the subject found its rewards. Colmers found that another neurotransmitter called neuropeptide Y can halt the process of cellular learning.

"You can find the fridge and you know there's good stuff in there, so you can find it in your sleep, and people do," said Colmers. "So there's this whole reward aspect to the place [where the reward is found] that we've been able to unravel."

The researchers looked at a specific part of the brain called the dentate gyrus. The scientists used brain slices from laboratory models and found that dopamine strengthened cellular learning. Doing the same experiment with neuropeptide Y, applied together with dopamine, prevented cellular learning from happening.

The group had a chance to do this in human brain slices taken from patients undergoing therapy for temporal lobe epilepsy. The human brain cells showed the same properties as cells found in laboratory models.

This discovery, which is published in the October edition of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, is still early science for the lab and has raised more questions for the group, including one very important one.

"The next question I think really is going to be how we translate this in to something we can use in the clinic," said Colmers.

Finding out why hunger is harder on some kids

Raquel Maurier

A University of Alberta medical researcher is studying obese children afflicted with a life-threatening syndrome that makes them constantly feel hungry.

The children Andrea Haqq is working with have a chronic genetic condition known as Prader Willi Syndrome, which affects more than 3,000 Canadians. It is the most common genetic cause of childhood obesity but there is no cure, although researchers like Haqq are trying to better understand and manage the condition and its symptoms.

Haqq and her research team want to hone in on two key areas for the studies. Specifically, they want to determine why children with this syndrome have higher levels of a hunger hormone known as ghrelin, compared to obese children without this syndrome. The researchers also want to see how the children's bodies are impacted by a higher protein meal, versus a lower protein meal.

"These children are so hungry that parents are sometimes forced to put locks on their refrigerators, never leave food on the counter or institute no-food-sharing rules," says Haqq, a pediatric endocrinologist and associate professor of pediatrics with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry.

"These children are so hungry they can be very creative when it comes to trying to get food. I know of one child who ordered pizza to be delivered to his neighbours' house and then went next door and got the pizza."

Haqq is conducting two studies to see if higher protein meals will make these children feel full even though they have high levels of ghrelin. She also wants to see if there is link between low protein levels in their brains, their insatiable appetite and other brain functions. Haqq explained there is some evidence that ghrelin may be impacted by protein, but this has not been well studied in children with Prader Willi Syndrome.

The second study will look at a protein level in the brain known as brain derived neurotrophic factor, which is responsible for brain growth. This protein level is significantly lower in children who have Prader Willi Syndrome, compared to obese children without the syndrome. Haqq wants to see if there is a link between the low protein level and hunger and brain functions in obese children with Prader Willi Syndrome, and compare that to obese children without the syndrome.

Haqq currently has eight obese children involved in the studies but is prepared to see up to 45 children in total as part of her current and upcoming research projects. Haqq is studying obese children between the ages of five and 17, some with the syndrome and some without so she can compare the results of the two groups.

Anyone interested in taking part in the study can call 780-407-7241 for more information.

Haqq's findings were recently published in the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*.

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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Embracing the maple leaf

Mary Simon, president of the national Inuit advocacy group Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (Inuit are united in Canada), said in her Hurtig lecture presentation Sept. 25 that many challenges face Canada's Inuit communities.

Her talk, entitled "Inuit in Canada—Embracing the Maple Leaf," focused on a long-standing crisis in education for the Inuit, calling the need for change "a moral imperative."

Simon, who has spent her entire career as an advocate for Inuit and northern concerns and has served as senior Inuit negotiator for both the repatriation of the Canadian constitution in 1982 and the Charlottetown Accord negotiations, says that the issue is of significant concern for the Inuit and Canada, especially within the context of Canada's future.

"Improving outcomes in Inuit education will have the biggest impact on the health of our communities and the prosperity of our country," said Simon. "In order for the northern strategy and Canada's Arctic foreign policy to make a meaningful contribution to Canada's prosperity and security, we need healthy, educated people living in Canada's Arctic."

She said any discussion on the future of Canada must include making significant changes to Inuit education, a structure she says is at least five decades behind most of the rest of Canada.

As an ethnic population, the Inuit statistically have the largest group of young people in the country, and, says Simon. "This growing demographic is making its way through the school system right now. As a group, we are distancing ourselves from the long shadow of residential school policy by reshaping our education system around our history, our language and our culture."

Living our promise

The University of Alberta and its people are dedicated to the promise made in 1908 by founding President Henry Marshall Tory, that the university will act in the spirit that ". . . knowledge shall not be the concern of scholars alone. The uplifting of the whole people shall be its final goal."

In the 102 years since Tory uttered those memorable words, generations of U of A students, faculty, staff and alumni have carefully built on and fulfilled that promise to the community. That journey continues. A website debuted Sept. 24 that showcases the promise and tells the stories of U of A people—through their own words and with photos—who are living the promise every day and contributing to our local and global community. To watch some of these stories, go to www.promise.ualberta.ca.

The hunt for hepatitis C

Discovering the hepatitis C virus and then developing tests that better protected the blood supply, was the focus of Michael Houghton's keynote address during the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry's Inaugural Professorial Lectures Sept. 27.

Houghton, Canada Excellence Research Chair in Virology, talked about his years spent trying to pinpoint the hepatitis C virus.

"It was like trying to find a needle in the haystack in the dark," says Houghton. "We spent years trying to find this virus with no success, lots of work and lots of frustration. But we never gave up. We finally had one successful experiment in 1989 after seven years of research, and that's when we identified the hepatitis C virus."

Prior to the discovery, people getting a blood transfusion had a one-in-20 chance of contracting hepatitis C. Now the risk is less than one in a million. "The risk is so low, we can hardly measure it," says Houghton.

This year, 15,000 people in North America will die from hepatitis C. People who have the virus can develop liver cirrhosis, liver cancer and liver failure. The good news is that by 2015, more than 90 per cent of people living with hepatitis C will be cured, thanks to medications that will soon be approved. Houghton, who will spend his time in Edmonton working on a vaccine for hepatitis C and researching whether certain conditions like irritable bowel syndrome and epilepsy could be caused by an infection.

Another presenter at the Inaugural Professorial Lectures, Sangita Sharma, the new endowed research chair in Aboriginal health, talked about her work in the Canadian Arctic, where she gathered nutrition data, then worked with Aboriginal populations to come up with a program to reduce the risk of chronic disease. The next Inaugural Professorial Lectures will be held on Jan. 24, 2011.

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Campus Saint-Jean holds mass book launch

Jamie Hanlon

The Salon du livre, an inaugural book launch held at Campus Saint-Jean Sept. 23, introduced six new tomes to its audiences and the launch of a website—all works produced by CSJ professors and researchers.

With topics ranging from the resolution of cultural conflict to conservatism in Quebec, to the history of French-influenced names in Saskatchewan and the diversity of knowledge in indigenous identity, the diversity of expertise at the university's French-language campus was proudly on display for attendees. However, Marc Arnal, dean of the campus, said it was also the opportunity to introduce the public to the hidden gem that is the campus.

"We said, 'there are a lot of people who don't know us, but there are also a lot who think they know who we are but they really don't,'" he said. "What we want to do with the Salon du livre is to spread the word about the fruits of our research labour, while focusing on the published books."

The presented books included *Stratégies pour écrire un texte explicative*, by Martine Cavanagh. The third in a series, Cavanagh's practical approach provides teachers with useful strategies on how to help students write strong comparison or cause-effect texts. Roger Parent's *Résoudre des conflits culturels* explores intercultural exchange as a solution to modern cultural conflicts, while *Mémoire des noms de lieus d'origine et d'influence françaises en Saskatchewan*, by Carol Léonard, serves as a written history of the French toponomical influence in the naming of more than 2,500 Saskatchewan communities. Nathalie Kermoal brings together the work of scholars in indigenous studies from Canada, New Zealand and the Pacific in *Indigenous Identities and Resistance* and *Le conservatisme au Québec*, by Frédéric Boily, offers the notion that a "quiet conservatism" existed in Québec after the 1960s and that conservatism remains an undeniable fact of that province's political history. Lastly, *Récits du XIXe siècle, byl'Institut d'études canadiennes*, studies the narrative structures employed by four Canadian historians.

> "Animal-assisted literacy learning is about how children experience literacy learning in a safe, supportive, effective, meaningful and exciting learning environment."
>
> Lori Friesen

Arnal says that the event was a means to increase the community's awareness of the type and quality of research being done by the campus' researchers in French and believes that the objective was definitely achieved. He says that research is of key importance for his institution and points to two streams of research that are of growing importance: interculturality and applied mathematics. In terms of the research potential being produced by these areas, he notes that observers should "hang on to your hats; we're moving."

Arnal envisions the Salon du livre becoming a staple event for Campus Saint-Jean and noted that there appears to be no shortage of talent to showcase for next year, as five more books are already in the works by faculty members. He notes, however, that the current successes demonstrated by these published works owe a nod to the past work that has been done behind the scenes by CSJ staff. He cites a strong mentoring program of new professors and a solid working link to the North Campus' research office as examples of a commitment to building a research-focused campus in French.

"We've really done what we had to do to be where we are today," said Arnal. "I think the rise in the breadth, scope and quality of research—through judicious hiring and through the work of these pioneering professors who paved the way for us—is starting to pay off."

classified ads

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Calgary Centre Speaker Series keeps it all in the family

Matthew Burns

While it is argued that family business is currently responsible for 60 per cent of Canada's gross domestic product and 70 per cent of new jobs created each year, this contribution is little known or understood, says a leading global researcher into family enterprise.

Lloyd Steier, academic director for the Alberta School of Business' Alberta Business Family Institute and the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Family Enterprise, shed greater light on the little-known importance of family enterprise to Alberta and Canada through his lecture entitled "Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Societal Wealth Creation in the Family Business Context."

"Whether it be corporate strategy, marketing, finance or organizational behaviour, much of the material people analyze on business relates to publicly traded companies," said Steier. "However, the 'organizational landscape' contains many, many family firms and they are understudied and little understood."

Speaking to a capacity audience of alumni, entrepreneurs, professionals and other interested individuals, Steier's lecture kicked off season two of the U of A's Calgary Centre Speaker Series.

At the outset of the talk, Steier expanded on key factors leading to economic growth in the West from the late 19th century until today, which sprang from the commissioning of the Dominion Lands (Homestead) Act in 1872: Family and community building, innovation and entrepreneurship, and an investment in education.

Steier examined three leading global firms that show the strength of family in providing a strong base for growth and expansion. Looking at Wal-Mart, for example, Steier showed how founder Sam Walton was able to accumulate capital through family connections in order to finance the first stores in his network. At the time of his passing, his initial investment was worth over US$40 million.

"We often celebrate individual-action, 'lone wolf' models of entrepreneurship and firm success," said Steier. "At the same time, we underemphasize the important role of family. In Walton's case, access to family capital was critical to Wal-Mart's early expansion."

Steier shared a useful airplane analogy to describe factors impacting the success or failure of family firms. While entrepreneurship, good governance and networks are a plane's "thrust," he said its "drag" can come from succession planning, intergenerational wealth transfer and leadership struggles.

"The collective challenge for government policy makers and people is to realize the strength of family business as a viable economic contributor while minimizing its weaknesses," said Steier.

Steier and the Alberta Business Family Institute will be in Calgary to celebrate "An Evening with the Brewster Family" on Nov. 2, 2010. For more information visit www.business.ualberta.ca/Centres/abfi.aspx.

Lloyd Steier shed greater light on the little known importance of family enterprise to Alberta and Canada during the U of A's Calgary Centre Speaker Series Sept. 28.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Jan. 14, 2011

The John H. Meier, Jr. Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction Collection. This exhibition presents examples of first editions of all the titles that have won Canada's prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction from its inception to the present. Noon–4:30 p.m. Rutherford Library.

Until Nov. 9

Mini Medical School. Running every Tuesday for eight weeks, the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry is presenting this lecture series on topics from dentistry and surgery to nutrition and acupuncture. 7–9 p.m. Bernard Snell Hall. Go to www.cpl.ualberta.

Until Oct. 22

2010 University of Alberta United Way Employee Campaign. Return your pledge form to the Campus United Way Campaign before Oct. 22 for your chance to win an Air Canada ticket. General Services Building. www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/unitedway.

Oct. 8–10

Race-Making and the State: Between Postracial Neoliberalism and Racialized Terrorism. The primary purpose of this conference is to explore race-making, anti-racism, decolonization and the state. Lister Centre. www.criticalraceconference.arts.ualberta.ca.

Oct. 8–10

Golden Bears Basketball Invitational and Panda's Hoopfest. Main Gym. For a list of all Golden Bear and Panda athletics go towww.bears.ualberta.ca.

Oct. 9

Anton Kuerti and the Jacques Thibaud Trio. One of Canada's most celebrated musicians, the pianist Anton Kuerti, returns to Edmonton to perform with the Jacques Thibaud Trio. The concert program features, in addition to works by Mozart and Beethoven, a rarely heard masterwork by Hermann Goetz, his quartet in E Major for piano and strings. 8 p.m. Convocation Hall Arts and Convocation Hall.

Oct. 12

Nanomedicine in Transplantation Symposium. This symposium will feature David Nemazee, professor at Scripps Research Institute, Geoffrey Strouse, professor at Florida State University, and Uri Galili, professor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, all of whom have been successful in conducting multidisciplinary research across the fields of immunology, materials science and chemistry. 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Lister Centre. To register, go to www.glyconanotransplant.com.

Oct. 13

New Technologies, New Challenges. This research colloquium, "Building and Managing Online Identities For Professional (and Personal) Communication," features Brenda Chawner, professor at the School of Information Management, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Noon–1 p.m. 2-09 Rutherford South Aberhart Centre.

Oct. 14–16

Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy Annual Congress. Speakers include John Protevi and François Raffoul from Louisiana State University, Samir Gandesha from UBC, as well as Robert Burch, Karyn Ball, Chloe Taylor, Cressida Heyes & Paul Datta, from the U of A. $60 for faculty, $20 for students. CSC and Lister Centre.

Oct. 14

United Way Rummage Sale. The Population Research Lab staff will be holding a rummage sale in support of the United Way. Household items, toys, books and much more 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Tory Breezeway.

The Small World of Petrocarbons. A lecture by Gordon Laird, journalist and author of "The Price of a Bargain: The Quest for Cheap and the Death of Globalization." 3:30–5 p.m. HC L-3 Humanities Centre.

22nd Annual McDonald Lecture in Constitutional Studies. The Honourable Justice Frank Lacobucci will give this lecture entitled "Canada's Response to Terrorism." 5 p.m. Timms Centre for the Arts. To RSVP go to www.law.ualberta.ca/centres/ccs/uploads/lacobucci%20poster.pdf.

A Dialogue with Frank Turk: Educational Issues with Deaf Learners. As a deaf educator with several decades of experience, Frank Turk will walk the audience through some of the important educational issues with deaf learners, past, current and future. 7:30–9 p.m. 2-115 Education North Education Centre, North & South.

Oct. 15

Health Ethics Symposium/Disability Ethics. The John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre invites you to a one-day symposium on disability ethics 8:45 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Wild Rose Room Lister Centre.

Edmonton and Houston: Sustainable Energy Landscapes. Robert Harriss, renowned for his sustainability research with organizations such as NASA, will discuss the similar histories and futures of Edmonton and Houston, Texas. Both fossil-fuel energy hubs, Houston has embraced and benefitted from the quest for alternative-energy sources and Harriss says Edmonton can follow the same path. 7 p.m. Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science.

Oct. 17–23

Sustainability Awareness Week 2010. A week-long event filled with activities that raise awareness about the University of Alberta's efforts to "green" our campus. It engages students, staff and faculty in learning and actions that help the university become more sustainable. www.sustainability.ualberta.ca.

Oct. 18

Merv Leitch QC Memorial Lecture. Justice Thomas Cromwell of the Supreme Court of Canada. Noon–1:30 p.m. Room 231/237 Law Centre.

Energy and Environmental Economics Seminars. Alain-Desire Nimobona, Waterloo University will give a talk Green Technology Transfers and Border Tax Adjustments. 8-22 Tory. 3:30 p.m.

Oct. 18

CIHR Catalyst Grants: Strategies for Success. CIHR's Catalyst Grant Program will be described including how and when to find funding opportunities. Speakers include Katharine Magor, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, and Marilyn Desrosiers, deputy director, Targeted Initiatives Branch, CIHR. 1–2:15 p.m. Dvorkin Videoconference Room, 2G2.07 U of A Hospital. To register go to rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=4572

Oct. 19–26

Campus United Way Campaign Auction. Many great gift items to bid on. www.campusauctionmarket.com

Oct. 19

Temporary Foreign Workers in Nursing: Alberta and Manitoba Perspectives. The Work and Learning Network in partnership with the Prairie Metropolis Centre host a Temporary Foreign symposium 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Aberhart Centre.

Connects Career Explorer: Science Communicators. Features a panel of professionals on careers in communicating science: Shannon Jones, communications advisor for the National Institute for Nanotechnology, Hanneke Brooymans, environmental reporter for the Edmonton Journal, and Torah Kachur, co-founder of Science In Seconds and sessional instructor at Grant MacEwan. 11:30 a.m. –1 p.m., Faculty Club.

The Great Leap Sideways. Critically acclaimed author of the 2007 bestseller of "The Geography of Hope: A Tour of the World We Need," Chris Turner, speaks about sustainability. Telus Centre, room 150. 5–8 p.m. 150 TELUS Centre.

Oct. 20

United Way Super Sub Day. Meat or Veggie Sub and Beverage for only $5. Proceeds to the campus United Way Campaign. 10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Physical Education and Recreation Centre, Van Vliet.

Oct. 21

Tri-Council Monitoring Visit Information Session. The Tri-Council Agencies (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC) will be holding a monitoring visit at the U of A. Topics for this session include the roles and responsibilities of the U of A and Tri-Council agencies and discussion about the use of grant funds. All university employees involved in the management of Tri-Council funding are strongly encouraged to attend. 2–4 p.m. Solarium in the Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex.

Winspear 1 Symphonic Wind Ensemble. 8 p.m., Winspear Centre.

Oct. 21–23

Taking the Next Steps: Sustainability Planning, Policy and Participation for Rural Canadian Communities. 7 p.m. Faith and Life Centre. http://www.augustana.ualberta.ca/centres/acsrc/TakingtheNextSteps/

Oct. 22

2010 Margaret Scott Wright Research Day. 8 a.m.–4 p.m. Lister Centre. www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/nursing/mswday.cfm

Oct. 23

University of Alberta Open House. Each October the U of A holds its annual Open House featuring a booth fair, presentations, campus tours, special events and prize giveaways. 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Butterdome.

when I was 10

When Rodney Corkum's Grade 5/6 class at Inglewood Elementary had the opportunity during the last weekend of September to attend the University of Alberta's U School—a new Senate program that encourages low-income students to spend time in a post-secondary environment—they jumped at the chance. And focused, aimed and clicked their way around campus, capturing the beauty of the U of A campus in fall.

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 3
Power of people
Conference scrutinizes China-Canada relations

Page 4
University 101
The inner workings of the General Faculties Council

Page 9
What is truth?
Festival of Ideas challenges intellect

Volume 48 Issue 4 | October 22, 2010 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Econ professor named to federal R&D panel

Folio staff

University of Alberta economics professor Bev Dahlby has been appointed by the Government of Canada to a six-member panel of experts to lead a comprehensive review of all federal support for research and development.

Dahlby is an acclaimed economist who is sought after internationally for his expertise on economic policy. In May he was awarded the Doug Purvis Memorial Prize by the Canadian Economics Association for excellence relating to Canadian economic policy.

"I am honoured to have been chosen," said Dahlby of his selection to the panel. "I am pleased to be able to represent the university and will do the best job that I can."

The panel has one year to produce formal recommendations regarding ways that government funding and policy can enhance business research and development and productivity. The panel's recommendations will be publicly reported within a year.

The creation of the panel is both strategic and timely, according to President Indira Samarasekera, a vocal supporter of R&D investments and the benefits to Canada of more public-private partnerships around research and innovation.

"As one of Canada's leading research-focused public institutions, we at the U of A commend the government on creating this panel, and we firmly believe that Canada must be relentless in its pursuit of excellence," said Samarasekera. "For nearly two decades the Government of Canada has been making strategic investments that have built a foundation for innovation and competitiveness and that have set Canada up for great success."

Examples of that investment include funding for the Tri-Councils, the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Canada Research Chairs, the Vanier Scholarships, the Canada Excellence Research Chairs, the Banting Post-doctoral Fellowships Program and the Knowledge Infrastructure Program.

Dahlby continued on page 2

Concert admission: A little elbow grease

Supplied

All the electricity for the Holly Arntzen, Kevin Wright and the Dream Band was provided by people-powered bike generators during the kickoff of the U of A's Sustainability Awareness Week in Quad Oct. 18.

Alberta Order of Excellence bestowed on U of A legends

Brian Murphy

A legendary paleontologist and a champion for disabled athletes, both prominent professors at the University of Alberta, have received the highest honour the province can give to a citizen.

The Alberta Order of Excellence was presented to U of A professor emeritus Bob Steadward and paleontologist Philip Currie Oct. 20 at Government House in Edmonton.

Bob Steadward

A committee of volunteers, led by Alberta's lieutenant governor Donald Ethell, considers a list of nominees for the Alberta Order of Excellence. The award recognizes people for long service to Albertans and for the impact their work has on people across Canada and around the world. Another criterion is that the recipient's work stands the test of time.

As a renowned dinosaur hunter, Currie measures time in tens of millions of years. His credits include a key role in the creation of the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology in Drumheller, landmark research publications from dinosaur digs as far flung as Mongolia and Argentina, and continued work communicating the important role ancient fossils play in determining the environmental future of the planet.

"I couldn't be happier because this award is a milestone for paleontology in Alberta," said Currie. "There aren't many places in the world where a government would recognize these resources are vital and that we should continue to study and develop this resource."

Steadward is no stranger to the pomp and ceremony of a major government award. Already an Officer of the Order of Canada, Steadward has been recognized for his work on behalf of disabled athletes around the world. Steadward says he finds special meaning in this award from his home province.

"Sometimes it makes things a little bit more special when recognition comes from close to your own home," he said.

Phil Currie

Another example of Steadward's local recognition sits on the U of A's South Campus at the Steadward Centre for Personal and Physical Achievement. The origins of the facility go back to Steward's days as a U of A professor. He is now the honorary president of the centre, which is recognized as a leading facility in disability research.

Steadward says his Alberta Order of Excellence Award is a reminder that the disabled need others to champion their cause because they can go unnoticed. Steadward also says the need for recognition of people with disabilities has never been greater.

"As people are living longer it's amazing to see the increase in the number of people with disabilities so it's incredibly important for the government to focus on support for the services these people require."

U of A moves up in publications' ranking

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta has again surged in a ranking of higher-education research institutions that measures the generation of publication and citation data.

According to the SCImago Institutions Rankings, which analyzed the recent research-publication performance of 2,833 international research institutions and organizations, the U of A finished 57th in the world, 30th in North America and third in Canada. This is a hefty jump from the U of A's impressive 2009 international ranking of 66th.

Ranking continued on page 5

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Does antibiotic use trigger childhood asthma and allergies?

Raquel Maurier

A cross-Canada team of medical researchers suspects that giving antibiotics to infants in their first year of life may be the underlying trigger that causes asthma and allergies to develop later in childhood.

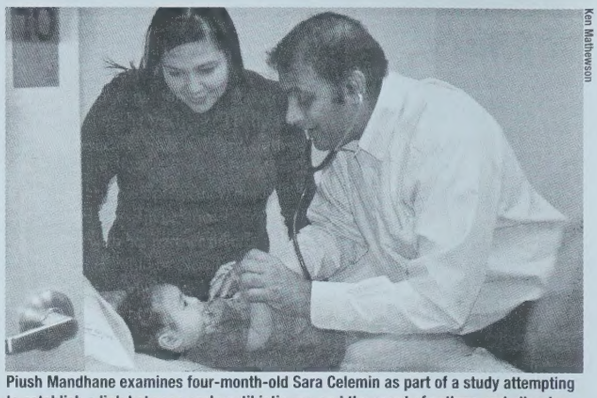
The researchers, from five Canadian universities, including the University of Alberta, are conducting a major, $2.5-million study on how intestinal bacteria changes in newborns after the babies take antibiotics, and whether those changes trigger certain medical conditions in children. Epidemiologist Anita Kozyrskyj, a professor in the Department of Pediatrics and co-lead investigator in this new federally funded study, demonstrated in a pilot study that infants who receive antibiotics by three months of age have changes in their microbiota.

"The number of different kinds of bacteria is less," says Kozyrskyj. "Now the question is: does antibiotic use early in life change the microbiota in the intestines of children? And are these changes associated with the development of asthma and allergies in children? We are hoping to specifically pinpoint which 'bad' bacteria it is that is causing asthma."

Everyone has "good" intestinal bacteria, known as microbiota, to help absorb nutrients and protect against harmful bacteria. No one is born with this; it develops throughout the first year of life. Normal development of the microbiota can be affected by various factors such as caesarean-section delivery and infant diet and medication use. By one year of age, more than 50 per cent of Canadian infants will receive an antibiotic prescription.

Studies have shown that antibiotics affect the microbiota. As well, composition of microbiota in children who have allergies is different than the microbiotia in children who don't suffer from allergies.

Kozyrskyj's research will zero in on antibiotic use in the first year of life and will be conducted through a research group called SyMBIOTA, or Synergy in Microbiota Research. The SyMBIOTA team includes researchers Piush Mandhane, Dean Befus, Radha Chari and Catherine Field.



Ken Mathewson

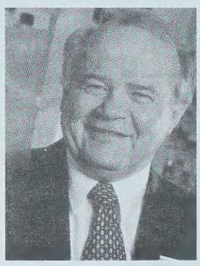
Piush Mandhane examines four-month-old Sara Celemin as part of a study attempting to establish a link between early antibiotic use and the onset of asthma and allergies.

Kozyrskyj's colleagues from the University of Toronto will look at the composition of microbiota from fecal samples from children aged three months and at one year. By extracting DNA from these samples, researchers will be able to identify the bacteria that are present in microbiota. This research is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the AllerGen Network Centres of Excellence.

Virologist called to medical hall of fame

Quinn Phillips

He led the University of Alberta's medical school for 10 years; he developed the antiviral therapy for hepatitis B now being used around the globe, and he was the driving force behind the development of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology—a facility that has vaulted the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and the U of A to prominence as a world centre of excellence in viral research.



Lorne Tyrrell

Now add Canadian Medical Hall of Fame laureate to the list of accomplishments for Lorne Tyrrell.

"When I was first called and told about it, it was quite emotional to think of the people that are there and for me to be joining that group," said Tyrrell, who is being inducted in two categories: Builder and Excellence in Health Research.

Tyrrell is one of six "medical heroes" being honoured this year during a ceremony to be held April 28, 2011, in London, Ont. He was nominated by two colleagues, Henry Friesen, a hall-of-fame laureate from the University of Manitoba, and Robert Lampard, a retired medical historian from the University of Calgary and author of a soon-to-be released book about the U of A's Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry.

"Dr. Tyrrell is a former board member and we had a feeling that as soon as he completed his six-year term and became eligible for nomination, it wouldn't take long for him to receive this honour," said Janet Tufts, executive director of the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame. "Laureates may either have made a single meritorious discovery or have a lifetime of accomplishments. Dr. Tyrrell fits both criteria."

Philip Baker, dean of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, says Tyrrell should serve as an inspiration to us all.

"Dr. Tyrrell's contributions to translational research and dedication to his work and the welfare of patients worldwide make him most worthy of this honour. We are very lucky to have him with us in the faculty."

Tyrrell completed his medical degree at the U of A in 1968 and received his PhD from Queens University in 1972. He helped change the face of medicine with the development of the drug lamivudine as the first antiviral agent for the treatment and control of HBV (hepatitis B virus), a disease affecting hundreds of millions around the world. As a result of that monumental discovery, liver transplantation programs for hepatitis B carriers were reinstated.

Tyrrell also served as dean of the faculty from 1994 to 2004 and is currently the founding director of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology. As well, he holds the Canadian Institutes of Health Research-GlaxoSmithKline Chair in Virology.

University President Indira Samarasekera also greeted the announcement as a fitting honour.

"Lorne's leadership at the U of A has raised the university's profile as a medical research institution and his dedication to his field has resulted in the outstanding research programs now housed in the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology," said Samarasekera. "There could be no more worthy inductee to the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame than Lorne Tyrrell."

Tyrrell has received numerous other awards, including the university's top research award, the J. Gordin Kaplan Award. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a member of the Alberta Order of Excellence and an Officer of the Order of Canada.

But he is not resting on his laurels.

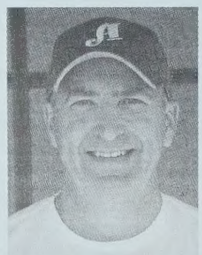
"I've got lots of things that I still want to do," said Tyrrell. "We want to accomplish more in the treatments and improving outcomes for people with hepatitis B and hepatitis C. Also, we're going to do some work in other viral infections because there are a lot of people that need help and this is part of the mandate of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology."

Dahlby

continued from page 1

Samarasekera is thrilled to have Dahlby appointed to the panel.

"Bev is an internationally-acclaimed expert in economic policy, called upon to consult on tax reform in developing economies for the IMF and World Bank," said Samarasekera. "His well-deserved selection to the panel brings honour to the U of A, and we are all proud for him."



Bev Dahlby

Since joining the faculty in 1978, Dahlby has maintained a fairly low profile while teaching courses at all levels in the area of public economics, publishing prolifically, and advising and consulting. He has also made an important contribution to the field of public economics with the recent publication of his book, *The Marginal Cost of Public Funds*. He also serves as a fellow of the university's Institute for Public Economics and the C.D. Howe Institute in Toronto. But, according to economics chair Doug West, Dahlby has quietly amassed significant contributions to public policy.

"This selection is recognition of Bev's expertise, especially in the economics of taxation, so we in the department are very pleased for him," said West. "Only one person a year is recognized for contributions to public policy, and that was Bev this year. Through his appointment to the C.D. Howe Institute and his many other professional activities, Bev has made considerable contributions to public policy."

Health centre announces flu-shot clinic dates

Folio Staff

The University Health Centre, working closely with the Faculty of Nursing, Faculty of Pharmacy and Human Resource Services, will hold an influenza vaccination "blitz" for all U of A students and staff on the following dates:

- Main Campus clinics:
Nov. 2–4, 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
Registration on the main floor of SUB across from the food court.
- Campus Saint-Jean:
Nov. 16., 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Grand Salon, Pavillon Lacerte.
- Enterprise Square:
Nov. 17, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Green Room, located just north of Rutherford Bookstore.
- Augustana Campus is currently preparing its campus clinic and more information will be forwarded to all Augustana students and staff, when details are finalized. Note that the University Health Centre (2-200 SUB) is offering influenza shots onsite starting on Oct. 15. The centre will not offer influenza shots during the Main Campus clinics.

The clinics will be open only to students and staff, not to family members, because of the set amount of vaccine the university is receiving. Public clinics run by Alberta Health Services are again open across the province and available to every Alberta resident. Any family member of staff and students can access the seasonal influenza shot that way.

Staff and students will be asked to identify themselves (e.g. ONEcard or equivalent) before receiving the vaccination, as well as provide an Alberta health-care number (or the equivalent).

To help facilitate the efficient operation of the vaccination blitz, please try to avoid either choosing to show up first thing on the first day, or leaving it to the last day. You can also help speed things up by ensuring you bring the proper documentation, as above, and if possible, by wearing short-sleeved clothing.

For information about clinics in the community and seasonal influenza, please visit www.uhc.ualberta.ca.

People-to-people connections at core of Canada-China relationship

Michael Davies-Venn

Four decades after Canada and China signed a communiqué establishing diplomatic relationship, signs of steadily growing ties between the two countries are, as Prime Minister Stephen Harper puts it, clearer than ever. And at the core of the relationship are ordinary Chinese and Canadians, says John Baird, leader of the government in the House of Commons.

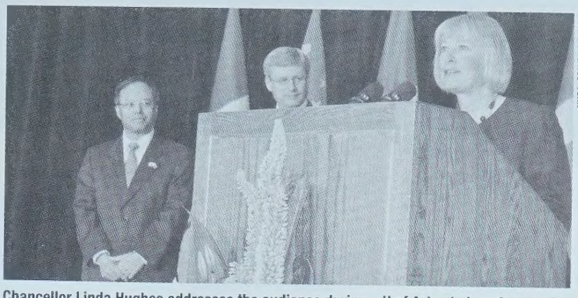
Baird told a conference organized by the University of Alberta's China Institute in Ottawa this month that extensive people-to-to people ties strengthen Canada's relationship with China.

"Canadians of Chinese origins have become part of the Canadian fabric. More than 1.3 million people of Chinese origin reside in Canada and more than 50,000 Chinese students study in Canadian academic institutions," he said.

Several of those students have come to the U of A. Fifty-six China Scholarship Council scholarship recipients started studying at the U of A this fall, marking the seventh highest number of CSC students at any university in the world, according to U of A International.

Lan Lijun, the out-going ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Canada, told delegates to the conference, which included parliamentarians, former Canadian ambassadors to China, academics, business leaders and others, that "today, our exchanges have been increasingly large in scale, diverse in form and high in level."

U of A Chancellor Linda Hughes said the university welcomes its role in enabling the growing relationship with China. Noting a recent conference that brought a 50-person delegation made up of Chinese government officials and administrators from leading universities in China to the U of A, Hughes says education is plays an important role in China-Canada relations.



Michael Davies-Venn

Chancellor Linda Hughes addresses the audience during a U of A-hosted conference in Ottawa, which examined 40 years of Canada-China relations. Among the dignitaries in attendance were Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Chinese ambassador Lan Lijun.

"Just as education builds nations, it also builds international relationships," said Hughes. "Education has helped formed a bond between our two countries since the 19th century, when Canadian missionaries helped build an education institute in China. Since 1970, educational exchanges have flourished between Canada and China, building friendships between individuals, growing mutual understanding and enriching and benefitting both nations."

The two-day national conference, which was co-sponsored by the federal Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, scrutinized the 40-year diplomatic relationship established in Sweden in October of 1970. In attendance was Harper, who said Canada compliments China's economic developments.

"China needs a stable source of energy to fuel its continuing growth; Canada is an emerging energy superpower. Chinese companies look for the best places to do business, Canada has low and falling tax rates, a low debt gross domestic product ratio and an environment that is welcoming of foreign investments," Harper said, adding Canada has committed more than a billion dollars to its pacific-coast trade infrastructure.

"In the context of global economic development, it is clear than ever that the strategic partnership between Canada and China has never been more promising."

Gordon Houlden, director of the U of A's China Institute, agreed that maintaining a stable and strong trade and investment relationship with the People's Republic of China will also be an indispensable element of Canadian prosperity in coming decades.

"With the steady rise over three decades of China's economic, political and cultural influence, the conduct of our relations with China must be a central component of Canadian diplomacy."

Campus Security gets a new name

Michael Brown

With its duties continuously evolving, Campus Security Services has shed its old handle in favour of a name that better reflects the organization's responsibilities and status.

On Nov. 1, campus peace officers will begin reporting to University of Alberta Protective Services.

"[Campus Security Services] is kind of a name from the past that is no longer applicable," said Bill Mowbray, director of University of Alberta Protective Services. "It ties us to a security organization, when that is not what we are anymore. We are more about crime prevention and being proactive than the old name suggests."

Mowbray says that previously security was the extent of a CSS member's duties, so the name fit; however, that changed when CSS became a special-constable organization in 1993. "That evolved further when we became a peace-officer organization in 2007," said Mowbray.

Today, UAPS, one of six operational units within Risk Management Services, provides a number of services to the U of A including information and advice on safety, security and crime prevention, emergency response, complaint investigation, accident investigation, lost-and-found services, general patrol, alarm response, special duty services, traffic safety enforcement and public education services.

Mowbray says the name also reflects better the hard work and skills acquired to become a peace officer, the majority of whom are U of A graduates.

"As a peace-officer organization, its members have a widening range of responsibilities to help protect the university and its burgeoning and diverse learning community," said Mowbray. "Working closely with city law enforcement and other emergency responders, and employing increasingly sophisticated techniques, the organization's officers are equipped to respond to crime of all sorts."

Supplied

Bill Mobray stands with University of Alberta Protective Services peace officers.

Helmholtz 'running on all cylinders'

Brian Murphy

The University of Alberta's partnership with German researchers to develop new sustainability technologies for the oilsands is up and running and is now looking beyond resource development to a shared interest in health care.

It was a year ago that the U of A announced its partnership with a group of 16 German research centres to form the Helmholtz Alberta Initiative. Stefan Scherer, special advisor to U of A's research office, says the university will expand its current capacity of nearly 50 oilsands-related research projects by sharing the work load with the Helmholtz Association's staff of 28,000 across Germany.

"U of A's Helmholtz program is running on all cylinders. Money from the provincial government's $25-million, five-year grant is in the hands of researchers and collaboration with their German colleagues is well underway," said Scherer.

The focus of the joint effort towards improving the performance of Alberta's oilsands includes reducing the amount of energy needed to withdraw the oil, developing reliable, low-cost carbon-capture techniques, and returning land set aside for tailings-pond use to its natural state more quickly.

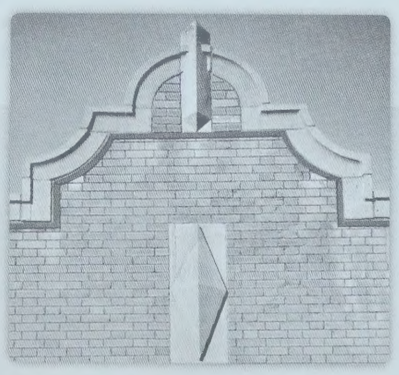
A group of German politicians who recently visited Alberta to learn more about the oilsands and the research partnership got a history lesson in heavy-oil extraction from former Syncrude CEO and former U of A chancellor Eric Newell. Newell told the visitors the U of A's pioneering research with separating heavy oil from sand goes back to the 1920's with the work of engineering professor Karl Clark.

"Technology and innovation have got us to this point, and they will get us to where we need to go," said Newell about the German researchers. "The technologies developed by the Helmholtz Alberta Initiative will be used by Alberta's oilsands and other heavy hydrocarbon resources such as coal extraction, which are common to both Germany and Canada."

Are You a Winner?

It doesn't happen often, but the Oct. 8 round of folio's "Are You a Winner?" contest appears to have gotten the best of the campus community. With no correct answers, the same photo will run again, but this time with a sweetened pot.

Up for grabs this week will be a long-thought-extinct Butterdome butter dish that was found after a deep examination of the folio prize trunk. The butterdish will go along with "The Contemporary Arab Reader on Political Islam," courtesy of the U of A Press. Addressing the key issues such as Shari'ah, human rights, civil society, secularism, globalization and ummah, and the impact of the West on the modern Arab world, this book is the perfect starting point for students and academics looking to understand "political Islam" in contemporary Arab and Muslim societies. To win a copy, simply identify where on campus the object of the picture is located. Email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Oct. 29, and you will be entered into the draw.



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About 150 occupational-therapy students from the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine led a flash mob dance in Quad on Oct. 6 to ring in National Occupational Therapy Month.

University 101

General Faculties Council: 'Reading the will of the academy'

Michael Brown

With a board of governors to take care of the business dealings of a university, who better to take care of the academic side than the academy itself.

Known as the General Faculties Council, this 158-member body—made up of university vice-presidents, faculty deans, professors, students, librarians and academic and non-academic staff, and chaired by the U of A president—takes its authority from the Alberta Post-Secondary Learning Act, but is powered by the university community.

Duane Szafron, professor in the Department of Computing Science, GFC executive committee member and chair of the GFC nominating committee, says that because the university is not a business, it is important that academic matters be left in the hands of the people who serve and are served by the university.

"The GFC reads the will of the academy and transfers that will into rules and modes of operation," said Szafron. "Everybody is equal. No matter who you are, everyone gets his or her say. The GFC is open and transparent and encourages diverse points of view. It's a place where you get a hearing, an opportunity to convince people that your point of view is right."

Subject to the authority of the board, GFC is responsible for the academic and student affairs of the university, including the granting of degrees and other credentials, and approval of the university's academic plan, programs, policies, awards and the university's calendar. The GFC also reviews disciplinary and appeal measures.

Garry Bodnar, director of GFC Services and secretary to GFC (who recently celebrated 30 years on campus), explains that, in terms of the academic affairs of the institution, the magic of the GFC is that it ensures that there is a buy-in for the decisions around academic matters by the academy itself.

"And therein lies the real essence of collegial governance at the University of Alberta," said Bodnar. "The GFC ensures that you have the academic community, and the support staff, being participants in decisions that influence the way the university conducts itself from the academic perspective."

Bodnar explains that many items brought before the GFC flow up through one or more of the GFC's nine standing committees. They are the Executive Committee (this committee is also the Nominating Committee), Academic Planning Committee, Academic Standards Committee, Committee on the Learning Environment, Campus Law Review Committee, Facilities Development Committee, Undergraduate Awards and Scholarship Committee, University Teaching Awards Committee and the Replenishment Committee.

Bodnar says the council has delegated to each standing committee authority to make decisions on behalf of GFC in each standing committee's defined area of responsibility. The delegation of authority to the standing committees is intended to permit the council to pursue major policy and strategic issues.

"[Delegation] came about back in the mid-1990s as a result of a governance review where we looked to streamline our governance processes and avoid circumstances where you have committees recommending to committees recommending to committees," said Bodnar. "It really was part of a larger effort to try to flatten our ordinance structure at the U of A and eliminate redundancies."

The most senior of these committees, the GFC executive committee, is responsible for establishing the agenda for each upcoming GFC meeting. As the GFC nominating committee, it also is responsible for providing a slate of nominees to the council for the replenishment of all GFC standing committees with the exception the executive committee itself, which is populated by names forwarded by the GFC replenishment committee.

An interesting feature of the executive committee is its composition. Bodnar explains that, stretching back to Rod Fraser's presidency (1995–2005), the president has delegated his or her responsibility of chairing the executive committee to the provost, who, in turn, delegated his ex officio position on the committee to the deputy provost.

"That evolved when the roles of the vice-president academic and the provost were merged, and that new role largely took over the operational responsibilities for the university," said Bodnar.

Moreover, while the volunteer efforts of the council are executed collegially with little fanfare, Marion Haggarty-France, university secretary in the U of A's governance unit, says no issue illustrates the good work of the GFC better than the development of a new convocation charge in 2008.

When it was brought to light earlier that year that the convocation charge may not properly represent all students, a subset of the GFC executive committee was struck to devise a convocation charge that would be responsive to the needs of the community. From there, Haggarty-France says a new charge was thought through in a collegial way among colleagues. "I would say that members who served at the time, and then watched students convocating after reciting that charge, think the role that the GFC played was really significant."

She added many institutions without this type of council and sense of collegiality in place might have well been afraid to move on such a contentious issue.

"It was a tough balancing act, but I think because of the process, because of the committees, and because people played a significant role and took their responsibilities very seriously, I think they got that one right."

Next week's topic will be the fourth in a five-part series on university governance: the executive arm of the U of A.

Building *The Vibrant Academy*

the open door

Carl Amrhein, provost and vice-president (academic) & Lorne Babiuk, vice-president (research)

Over the past five years, the University of Alberta's academic activities have been shaped by *Dare to Deliver*, which was the academy's response to the unveiling of the *Dare to Discover* vision as the university prepared to enter its second century. *Dare to Deliver* identified four areas of commitment—discovery learning, incubating scholarship, community engagement near and far, and building the transformative organization—which, we believe, successfully synthesized many exciting ideas that were emerging in different areas across the academy.

With the end of *Dare to Deliver*'s mandate fast approaching (July 1, 2011), the academic vice-presidents have again combined to co-chair an initiative to create the new academic plan for the next five years which will respond to the university's renewed *Dare to Discover* vision. An academic plan writing team—consisting of a student and several academic staff members—has drafted *The Vibrant Academy: Academic Plan 2011–2015*. They were assisted in their work by input from deans; various campus groups representing students, alumni and employees, some of which were involved in the drafting of the resource documents that informed the writing team.

We are now in the consultative phase of the plan's development, the time where we are sharing the draft extensively across the institution as we seek input and direction before the plan moves to completion and approval. *The Vibrant Academy*'s current draft is available online [www.provost.ualberta.ca/academicplan.aspx or www.research.ualberta.ca/OfficeoftheVPR/ResearchGoals.aspx], and we encourage the university community to review it and to provide your thoughts and suggestions. The deans have been invited to solicit feedback from within their Faculties, and submissions are also encouraged from staff and student associations. All members of the university community are welcome to provide additional feedback on the draft academic plan. We have asked for feedback by Nov. 1, and it can be submitted through a department or faculty, or emailed to: academic.plan@ualberta.ca.

Generating an academic plan that will fundamentally shape the U of A's next five years is a challenging task, but it will, first and foremost, recall faithfully the words of our founding president, Henry Marshall Tory:

"The modern state university has sprung from a demand on the part of the people themselves for intellectual recognition, a recognition which only a century ago was denied them. The result is that such institutions must be conducted in such a way as to relate them as closely as possible to the life of the people. The people demand that knowledge shall not be the concern of scholars alone. The uplifting of the whole people shall be its final goal."

These words of Henry Marshall Tory are inspiring and they challenge us to continuously renew the academic environment of our institution. The academic plan is designed to directly contribute to that renewal.

As you review the draft plan you will see that it is aligned with the four cornerstones of *Dare to Discover*, which are the foundations on which the university's vision is based.

The first cornerstone, "talented people," highlights the importance of attracting and retaining talented faculty, staff and students by focusing on reinvigorating what brings all these members together: the curriculum and its implementation at this research-intensive university.

The "learning, discovery and citizenship" cornerstone entails a philosophy that engages and defines every member of the academy as a participant in the learning process. This is achieved by providing an education where the university is responsible for meaningful and motivating curricular and co-curricular learning opportunities at every stage of the academic journey, one in which students are responsible for being fully engaged in their own learning. This cornerstone also emphasizes the value of pursuing research as a key aspect of scholarship, including the building of research "constellations" in areas of strength.

The third cornerstone is about "connecting communities." The U of A is anchored in Edmonton and Camrose but its reach extends globally. To build upon our position as a leading, research-intensive university, this local, provincial, national and international influence must continue and be enhanced.

The final cornerstone aims at providing the university community with "transformative organization and support." Recognizing strength in the diversity of our university community is important. The university strives to provide effective supports for all members to achieve their very best in a welcoming, affirming and accommodating environment. The U of A is known for its culture of collegiality and aspires to nurture a compassionate community.

As you review *The Vibrant Academy*, please keep in mind that its drafting comes at a time when the university community is operating in a very different, and much more complicated financial environment than was the case in 2004 when the previous plan was implemented. While the precise funding and budget details of the coming years are unclear, the strength of the cornerstones of a vibrant academy will be instrumental in grounding us—the talent of our academy will inspire us, and the pursuit of Tory's vision will continue to demand of us that together we achieve more than we ever thought possible.

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Promoting female physical literacy garners McCalla Professorship

Michael Brown

The broad idea that all Canadians should develop a life-long relationship with physical activity is commonly accepted as the right thing. However, like anything worth doing, creating strong "physical literacy" in Canadians is worth doing right.

Vicki Harber

According to Vicki Harber, a professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, the responsibility of disseminating this information correctly falls on the shoulders of the University of Alberta.

"When we talk about accountability at the university level, I think we are perfectly positioned to be doing more of the knowledge transfer about physical literacy," which Harber says is defined as having the knowledge and understanding necessary to maintain physical activity in one's lifetime. "We have buckets of knowledge of what to do, but we need to be better at changing people's behaviour."

Others agree—Harber has won a McCalla Professorship from the U of A to explore the impact of physical literacy on injury reduction and overall health in women and girls.

Harber's research has found that female athletes are more likely to suffer musculoskeletal injuries than their male counterparts, partially due to improper female physical literacy.

Beyond simply focusing on improper training techniques, Harber has advocated for athletes to pay attention to a problem called the Female Athlete Triad. She describes this as an imbalance between the energy demands of one's sport and the energy needs of one's body, which can lead to a problem of three separate but interrelated conditions of disordered eating, amenorrhea and osteoporosis.

To this end, Harber says she is using her McCalla award to create a new course, find ways to educate parents, teachers and coaches about positive physical activity practices and develop guidelines for school and community-based sport and recreation.

Harber says the course development is staged as practicum experience, which has begun with both a review of the theoretical underpinnings of physical literacy and a forum for developing healthy, young females along the way. From there, Harber wants her team (a mix of undergraduate and graduate students) to get into the community and find some examples of who is implementing successful physical literacy programs.

As well, Harber says the McCalla funding will allow her group to pilot a physical literacy camp for a select group of eight-to-10-year-old girls. This will allow her research team to determine what works and what doesn't when it comes to teaching physical literacy.

Harber says the aim of the program is reverse the trend found in the literature that shows girls will fall away from sport and physical activity at a higher rate compared to boys. "Based on that alone, we need to know what we can do to reduce the difference in dropout rates."

Harber explains the literature also details the adverse impacts of non-participation in sport or physical activity. "If physical activity enables girls to be more intrinsically rewarded and to have that sense of self-assurance, then—particularly through the adolescent years where there are issues of peer acceptance and pressure to engage in experimental behaviours such as drug taking, risky sexual behaviours and drinking alcohol—there's less need for that approval.

Harber says physical activity is a powerful choice, and should not be viewed solely in terms of cardiovascular benefits and musculoskeletal development.

"Ultimately, if we can equip elementary-school teachers and coaches with some of this information, it may make for an easier way for them to introduce physical literacy."

Although this knowledge transfer is a process that takes time, Harber says it is a process that plays to the university's strength.

"Every student in this faculty has been brought here because of some positive experience they have had with physical activity," she said. "We want to reach those young adults and give them strong, credible information so they can go out and create the love in others of healthy physical activity."

The aim of the McCalla Professorships is to provide faculty members with an opportunity to implement strategies integrating their research and teaching.

"This McCalla award has been an amazing opportunity for me," said Harber. "A prior mandate for the McCalla funding was purely for research, but since [U of A President] Indira [Samarasekera] set foot here, it has become about knowledge translation—the emersion of research into practice—and that was a gift for me."

Ranking

continued from page 1

"The U of A's performance in these rankings is a reflection of our faculty and their hard work," said President Indira Samarasekera. "To be ranked among the top 50 in the world helps us become a talent magnet and attract the best students, teachers and researchers from here and abroad."

Although encouraged by the rankings, Samarasekera is quick to point out university rankings only give a partial measure of a school's performance. "Although they can impact a school's reputation, they only provide a limited overview of our performance and are only one component of benchmarks that we consider."

SCImago is a research group affiliated with three universities in Spain-Granada, Extremadura and Carlos III in Madrid. Fully focused on the research dimension of institutions, SIR combines the ranking is amassed by combining indicators of institution research performance that stress output, collaboration, publication rate and impact. Analyzed institutions are grouped into five research sectors: government, higher education, health, corporate and others. Data for the rankings includes analysis of more than 80 per cent of the world's research publications released between 2004 and 2008.

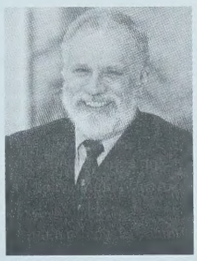
The 21,152 published U of A documents collected for the SIR ranking revealed strength in international collaboration, solid journal importance and better-than-average scientific impact.

According to figures gathered by Research Infosource, a leading provider of research intelligence for business and higher education, in 2009 the U of A was the recipient of $507.6 million in sponsored research income. The U of A finished behind only the University of Toronto, which led the Top 50 list with $858.2 million, and the University of British Columbia, which registered a 11.6 per cent year-over-year increase in sponsored research revenue.

Public Health honoree ready for shake up in profession

Folio Staff

The new president of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada says the country's health-care system needs fewer patients.



Louis Francescutti

"The greatest honour society can bestow on an individual is to be a physician, and a good physician should wake up in the morning trying to figure out how to get rid of all his patients, how to make them healthy," said Louis Francescutti, a professor in the University of Alberta's School of Public Health and an emergency physician. "We're spending a lot of money on health care and we're not getting the results we want. It's time to regroup and do something differently."

That "something" is focusing on social determinants of health, he said.

"A lot of people aren't able to eat properly; a lot of people have substance abuse problems; a lot of people have mental-illness problems, because of the fact that they don't have a good job, they don't have a good education, they're not literate, they're socially isolated. These things all go hand in hand," he said. "As a professor in the School of Public Health, I can tell you that there's more to health than the [bureaucratic] system. But as an emergency physician, I can tell you there's no shortage of patients that we need to treat right now."

If changes aren't made within the system, governments will have no choice but to start making those implementations, said Francescutti.

"I think everything needs to be questioned. Now, is the discussion going to be easy? Absolutely not, and a lot of people are going to be very uncomfortable," he said. "I know this is not the kind of thing you expect an incoming president to say, but I got out of the gate early and I'm trying to wake people up.

"As the Royal College, the organization that brings specialists across the country and certifies them, the membership is saying we're working harder than ever and we don't seem to be making any progress."

Duncan Saunders, chair of the Department of Public Health Sciences at the U of A, sees Francescutti's new role as important for public health in Canada. "Dr. Francescutti is a great communicator and motivator," he says, adding, "the presidency of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada will provide a wonderful opportunity for him to promote the importance of public health—and particularly of injury prevention and control—to physicians and the general public."

In 2005, Francescutti was named one of Alberta's 100 most influential physicians of the past century by the Alberta Medical Association and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta.

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Holding the U of A's place in history

Bev Betkowski

The University of Alberta's promise to the world reads like an open book. In fact, it now has the potential to be found in any book, thanks to a new signature series of "Uplifting the whole people" bookmarks now on campus.

The five elegant bookmarks display thumbnail vignettes of selected faculty, students, staff and donors, and explains how, through their passion for the U of A, they actively deliver on the promise made 102 years ago by Henry Marshall Tory, the university's founding president.

Tory's image is on the flip side of each bookmark, along with the words "uplifting the whole people," a phrase he used in the U of A's first convocation speech. In defining a commitment to local, national and international communities, the university has taken those words to heart.

"This is about the promise and the way we share the promise," said Sandra Conn, chief creative officer for the U of A, who came up with the idea of using bookmarks to spread the word about the university's pledge.

"The thing about a bookmark is that we pick them up wherever we go. And whenever we open a book, we see it again. People can pick them up and they see Tory, they see the words, and then they turn it over and they see the impact that the U of A has."

Supported by a creative team from University of Alberta Libraries, the project personifies Tory's vision for the U of A by spreading inspiration to everyone in an accessible way, said Ernie Ingles, vice-provost and former chief librarian. Ingles, as one of the people featured on the bookmarks, is proud to help spread Tory's vision.

While a paper page marker may seem "a wee bit traditional" for reaching the masses in this digital age, Ingles believes that the simple but powerful content of the bookmarks will resonate with people. "'Uplifting of the people' is a universal message. It worked in 1908 and it worked in 2008 and it will work in another 100 years."

Kevin Zak, a sessional instructor and master's student in design at the U of A, was given the job of bringing Tory's promise to life on paper. He designed the bookmarks to reflect the enduring nature of the promise. "The fact that Tory established this vision more than 100 years ago and the fact that we still have that vision is amazing," he said. "That's one side of the bookmark. The other side shows where we are today as a university and shows people as individuals.

"If we didn't have the strength of all those individuals, we wouldn't have a whole university."

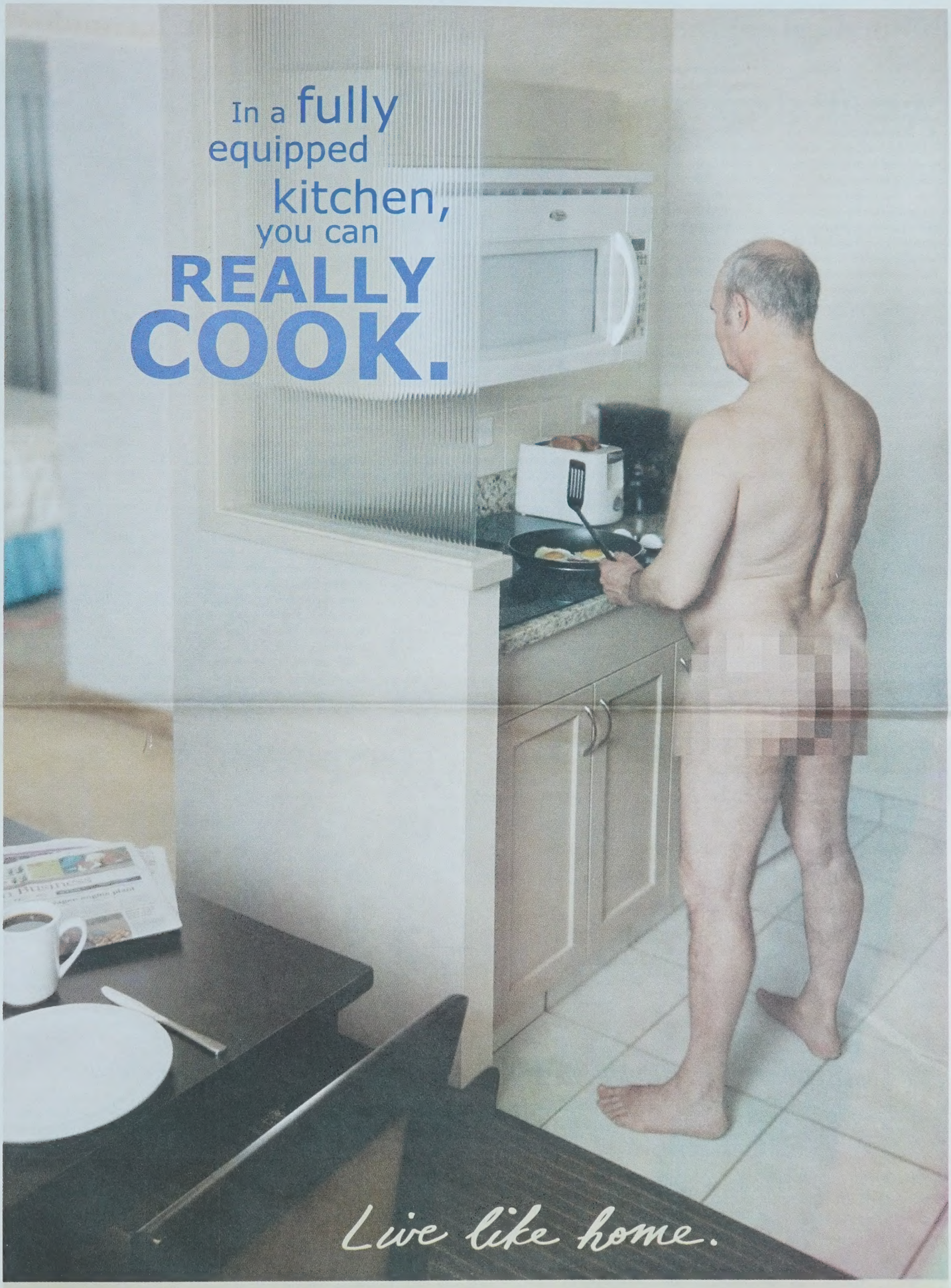
Sara Houlihan, a fourth-year medical student and holder of two U of A degrees already, was "blown away" when asked to lend her story to the project. Her bookmark lists some of her involvement with the U of A, including the Shine Clinic, which draws students from various faculties together with volunteers to provide free medical services to Edmonton's inner-city community.

"Even with our student group contributing to the health and wellness of others, we appreciate what we're getting out of the experience. We uplift ourselves by doing this, by volunteering and being involved."

Other university members featured in the series include Bev Findlay, administrative assistant in the Faculty of Native Studies, and Elly de Jongh, a donor who contributed to funding a new research chair in aging and quality of life. The first of the bookmarks, featuring professor emeritus Larry Wang and his efforts to help farmers along China's Yangtze River, was distributed this past spring.

The bookmarks are available at all of the university's libraries and bookstores, as well as Alumni Affairs at Enterprise Square and various faculties.

Conn hopes to also share the bookmarks with Alberta's high schools, so that future U of A students understand what their university represents. "We've found that even prospective students in high school are committed to social responsibility and that's what they want in their university. These bookmarks show them that 'uplifting the whole people' is not going to be rhetoric. It's going to be people helping people."



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Biomedical engineering sheds light on new imaging technology

Richard Cairney

A Faculty of Engineering professor is conducting biomedical research that could have profound effects on medical imaging and the delivery of drugs by using light and ultrasound.

Roger Zemp, a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, researches photo-acoustic imaging—literally making vivid, high-resolution images of the "sound" of light.

The research is simple in principle. In photo-acoustic imaging a beam of light is aimed at a target beneath the skin—a tumour for example. When the light hits its target, it heats up slightly and the tissue expands, emitting acoustic waves. Technologists can use ultrasound equipment to make an image of the tissue as a result of its expansion.

"The light is absorbed and turns to heat, the tissue expands and we listen to that expansion," Zemp explains, adding that the concept of photo-acoustic imaging was explored by Alexander Graham Bell more than 100 years ago, but has only recently been applied to biomedicine.

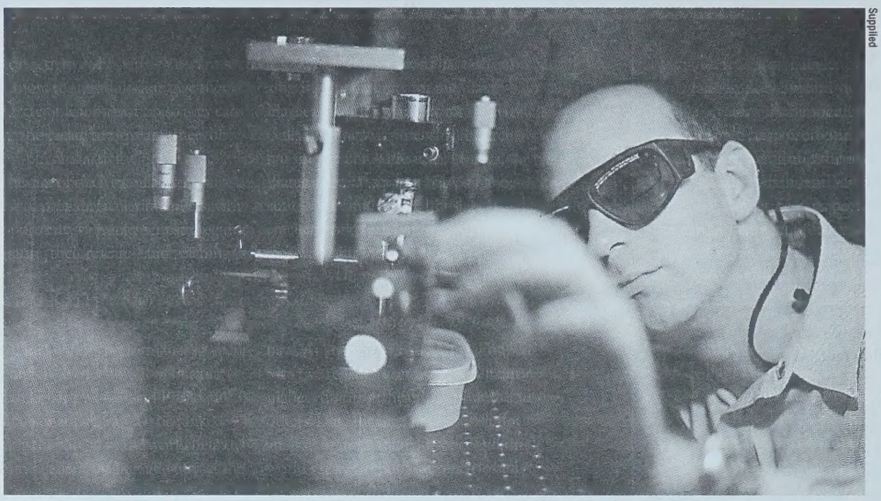
The benefits of photo-acoustic imaging are clear: it doesn't carry with it the same radiation exposure that X-rays do, image quality is high and functional and molecular information can be extracted because of the high quality optical contrast. In the case of diagnostic tests like mammograms, photo-acoustic imaging could help in the early detection of cancer by providing doctors with more detailed, crisp images.

In cancer treatment photo-acoustic imaging helps because, "we can understand what is going on in a tumour a lot better," said Zemp. "We can actually see, vessel by vessel, how much oxygen is in the blood."

This is important because tumours often have hypotoxic regions—areas that are poorly vascularized and necrotic. Cells that experience hypoxia begin to behave in ways that make them resistant to some therapies, says Zemp, so having an accurate "map" of a tumour is valuable in treating it. Different variations of photoacoustic imaging systems are being developed: systems similar to diagnostic ultrasound systems found in hospitals, and specialized systems aiming to image capillary networks in real time.

Zemp's team is also using photo-acoustic imaging to image gene expression. Often, biologists want to observe whether a particular gene is being expressed in cells or in living subjects. They use 'reporter genes,' which produce an optical signal to reveal the gene expression patterns. The problem is that such optical methods have poor penetration and spatial resolution in living subjects. Zemp and his colleagues are developing photoacoustic imaging techniques to visualize such gene expression patterns with high resolution at multiple-centimeter depths.

Zemp is working on other related research projects as well. In one, he has teamed up with postdoctoral fellow Robert Paproski and oncologist Carol Cass, a pioneer in the field of nucleoside transport—the phenomenon by which cells absorb drugs.



Supplied

Roger Zemp, a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, researches photo-acoustic imaging.

Because patients with pancreatic cancer are often unable to absorb drugs, Cass is looking for alternate delivery methods, or ways to cure the patients' nucleoside transport deficiency.

Zemp and Paproski are investigating the use of micro-bubbles to deliver genetic treatments or drugs. The micro-bubbles measure up to five microns in diameter, making them the size of a cell.

The idea is to first load the micro-bubbles with DNA that would encode cells with the ability to absorb drugs, deliver the bubbles to the pancreas, then use low-frequency ultrasound waves to pop them once the bubbles reach their target area.

Alternately, the same technique and technology could be used to deliver drugs directly to a tumour, minimizing side effects and enhancing the effect of the drug.

Zemp is also working on research to improve existing ultrasound and photo-acoustic imaging technology. In collaboration with a pediatric cardiologist, Zemp is looking for better ways to detect pulmonary hypertension. A telltale sign in diagnosing pulmonary hypertension is that the second sound in a heartbeat is split into two sounds.

"We envision having something like a stethoscope hooked up to a mobile phone and having an app that looks for the splitting of that second heart sound," he said.

He is also working with Edmonton-based Micralyne, a high-tech U of A spinoff company specializing in nano- and microtechnology to develop technology that will both deliver and receive ultrasound, and will combine high and low ultrasound frequencies.

Funding for Zemp's research comes from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, Canadian Cancer Society, Terry Fox Foundation, Alberta Cancer Research Institute, National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Alberta Advanced Education and Technology, and Microsystems Technology Research Initiative.

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Preparing for NASA's November furlough

Folio Staff

Friday, Nov.12 is the second furlough day for NASA staff; it is a regularly scheduled day of work for AASUA staff. The university will be open and operating at reduced levels of service on that day.

University administration urges you to consider how your faculty or unit plans to communicate the service levels available to students and clients.

This is a non-teaching day for most faculties. Faculties with classes running should ensure they consider any logistics related to building access and security.

Augustana will not be observing the furlough day on Nov. 12, and will be open with full service. NASA staff at Augustana will observe their furlough day on Oct. 22 and will operate at reduced levels of service on that day.

The following central units will offer service levels as follows:

Open with full service

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Open with reduced services

- Academic Information & Communication Technologies
- Environmental Health & Safety
- Financial Services
- Human Resource Services
- Libraries
- Supply Management Services

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- Help Desk – Academic Information & Communication Technologies
- Office of the Registrar

For additional information regarding service levels, please contact the appropriate faculty, department or service unit office.

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1) *"Nearly half of our staff has been to your clinic." - Staff member at the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry*

2) *"You helped me lose 35 pounds and my blood pressure has dropped significantly. My neck and shoulder pain, which I've had for more than 20 years, is also gone." - Senior staff member at the U of A*

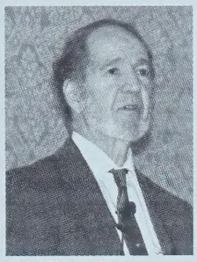
3) *"In two months of treatment, Dr. He has helped alleviate pain from sciatica, disc bulges and inoperable spinal cysts." - Senior staff member at the U of A*

Learning from past civilizations to preserve the future

Michael Brown

Beyond the romance associated with ancient civilizations, there is a fundamental question about those lost cities that can slap even the most ardent dreamer back to reality: why did they fail?

That query, and how the lessons learned can be applied to the situation many parts of the western world find themselves in now, are the basic theses of celebrity scientist Jared Diamond's Festival of Ideas' Inaugural Capital Power Corporation Lecture to be held Nov. 17 at the Winspear Centre, entitled "Why societies fail or flourish."


Jared Diamond

A professor of geography at UCLA and author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* and *Collapse*, Diamond routinely draws thousands of rapt listeners who walk away with a deeper and more nuanced view of the development of human civilization and the continued gulf between rich and poor in the global community.

"His lecture will challenge us to learn from the history of past civilizations, to understand why they failed or flourished, and how they reconciled humanity's quest for happiness with the limits of their ecology," said Martin Kennedy, Capital Power Corporation's vice-president, external and investor relations. Capital Power Corporation is the founding sponsor of the Festival of Ideas.

While on the lecture circuit, Diamond explores different lost civilizations like the Maya and the Norse of Greenland and attempts to draw a direct line from the calamities that sent ancient societies into myth to the pressing issues the entire world is dealing with today

For his talks, Diamond has formulated a five-point framework for possible contributing factors to a society's collapse—environmental damage, climate change, hostile neighbours, friendly trade partners and the society's responses to its problems—within which, he says, each has a common denominator.

"The common thread [of failed societies] is the rapidity of collapse after reaching peak in power," said Diamond. "How could societies not see their impacts on the environment and stop in time? [For example,] in the next century, we will be asking why the people of today did not see the obvious things that they were doing and take corrective action. It seems incredible what was done in the past; in the future it will seem incredible what we are doing today."

Diamond speaks of a civilization's "ticking time bombs," such as climate change and fresh-water shortages, which he says, once identified, generally resolve themselves for the worse in just a few decades. Unfortunately, Diamond says, "the blueprint for trouble, making collapse likely, is when there is a conflict-of-interest between the short-term interests of the decision-making elite and the long-term interests of society as a whole.

"It's hard for a society to make good decisions where there is conflict between commonly-held beliefs that are good in many circumstances but bad in other circumstances. It is particularly hard to change course when the things that get you into trouble are also the source of your strength."

A riveting lecturer, Diamond says that all the bleakness of his talk doesn't mean he is pessimistic about the future, choosing, rather, to hold out hope for the world.

"The biggest problems of the world are not above our control. Since we made the problems, we can solve them. It is completely in our power to solve the problems."

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Dance company searches for intersection of the past and present

Supplied

Les Jardins Chorégraphiques will be performing at the Citadel's Shoctor Theatre Nov. 19 at 8 p.m.

Folio Staff

Les Jardins Chorégraphiques is a baroque dance company that, on Nov. 19 at the Citadel's Shoctor Theatre, will perform a unique performance that includes court dances choreographed by 17th- and 18th-century dancing masters and theatrical dances from ballets by Moilère and Lully.

The originality of the troupe lies in its ability to converge historical and traditional elements with a touch of modernity. Their strength as a multidisciplinary team of dancers is drawn from the varied backgrounds of the dancers, which include theatre, music, baroque and modern dancing and art history.

Les Jardins Chorégraphiques performs under the artistic direction of Marie-Nathalie Lacoursière. For more than 20 years, Lacoursière has been involved in baroque music and dance as a dancer, choreographer and stage director. The company includes six dancers who are technically and esthetically trained in 17th and 18th-century dance styles. They have participated in the creation of different historical representations (ballet, opera and comédie-ballet) of periods and places in which dance was the central attraction.

Minds meet to discuss intelligence beyond Earth

Athena Photinopoulos

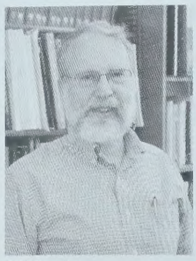
As part of the University of Alberta's Festival of Ideas 2010, Vatican astronomer José G. Funes and astrophysicist and professor Neil Comins will address the possibility of intelligent life beyond Earth in a panel discussion entitled "Astrobiology: Are We Alone in the Universe?" at the Telus World of Science Nov. 19. Together with moderator David Goa, they will tackle one of humankind's deepest fundamental questions.

José Funes

A Roman Catholic priest with graduate degrees in philosophy and astronomy, Funes is currently the director of the Vatican Observatory and has stated in the past that the belief in the existence of intelligent extraterrestrial life does not contradict the teachings of the church, and that dismissing the possible existence of aliens would be like "putting limits" on God's creative freedom.

Comins, who is currently a professor with the Faculty of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Maine, is well-known for his research in several areas, including observational astronomy, general relativity, galactic dynamics and astronomy education. He has also written several popular science books including two that explore alternative versions of Earth and one that debunks common scientific myths and life's curiosities. Comins hints that the Roman-Catholic perspective on the possibility of the existence of complex extraterrestrial life may not be so far from his own. He suggests that there are many important issues regarding habitable worlds that stem from such a question.

"Allowing that planets orbiting other stars can sustain life, the discussion could well range over many scientific and theological implications of their existence," said Comins. "For example, how easy is it to go from simple life forms like those that may exist in Mars and other worlds, to complex life like that found on Earth? Can such complex life form on planets [outside the solar system]? If so, why haven't we heard from them yet . . . or have we?"


Neil Comins

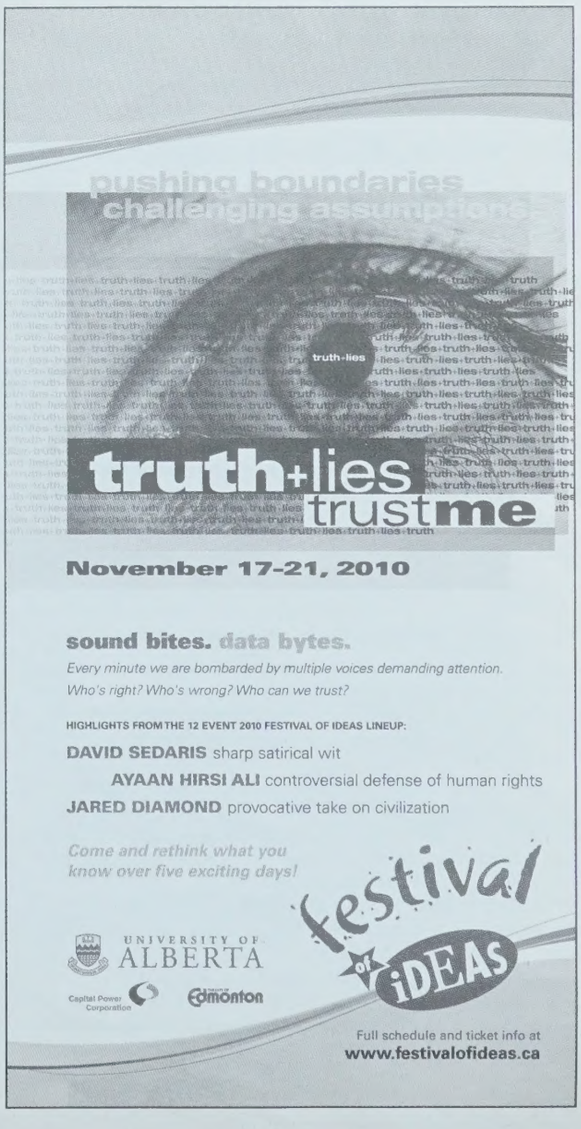
Considering the common notion that science and religion are contradictory forces, the different backgrounds of Funes and Comins will enable them to delve into what the possibility of self-aware life in the universe means for scientific inquiry, theology and humanity.

"Both of these men are men of science, and one is from both worlds [of science and religion]," said Goa, the moderator and director of the Chester Ronning Centre for the Study of Religion and Public Life, Augustana Campus.

"Father Funes is really the person 'sitting in Galileo's chair' in the 21st century, able to speak about how Roman-Catholic thought has cared about science and biological life, while Dr. Comins has a wonderful way of describing the uniqueness of our planet, its particular features that enable life and how these same features may be shared by other planets in our universe."

The two will meet for the first time during this event in Edmonton, and will have the opportunity to have a dialogue not only about the similarities of their perspectives, but about the possible differences in how they go about justifying these perspectives. Following their discussion, they will engage in a question–and-answer period with the audience.

For tickets or more information about the Festival of Ideas 2010, please visit www.festivalofideas.ca.



news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Student cycles to Commonwealth glory

Cyclist and U of A neuroscience student Tara Whitten was Canada's flag bearer for the closing ceremonies of the 19th Commonwealth Games in Dehli, India on Oct. 14. The 30-year-old beat the heat on Oct. 13 to win the 29-kilometre women's time trial in 38 minutes, 59.3 seconds, to add gold to her collection of three bronzes at the games. Whitten, who completed her undergraduate degree at the U of A with a major in biological sciences and a minor in psychology, joined neurophysiologist Clayton Dickson's Brain Rhythms Lab in 2006.

Whitten is also a former national team cross-country skier and a cross-country runner with the U of A Pandas.

U of A study examines cost of dying in hospital

Health-care epidemiologist Padma Kaul and cardiologist Paul Armstrong have found that the majority of heart-failure patients die in an acute-care facility, at great cost to the health-care system.

The pair led a study that examined data for more than 30,000 elderly patients with heart failure who died between 2000 and 2006 in Alberta. In 2006, the average cost for the last six months of care was about $28,000, nearly five times more than the average cost of care per capita in Alberta.

Kaul and Armstrong suggest health-care professionals talk to their patients about their options for where they choose to die, whether it is at home, in hospital or a palliative-care facility like a hospice, adding with an aging population, heart failure poses a major challenge to the publicly funded Canadian health-care system.

"I don't think anyone wants to die in the hospital with tubes coming out of their various body parts," said Kaul, an Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions investigator. "But nobody has really looked at this issue specifically in the heart-failure population."

Jannetta MacPhail, former dean, dies

Jannetta MacPhail, who served as professor and dean emerita at the U of A School of Nursing from 1982 to 1987, died on Sept. 15. She was 88.

MacPhail's thirst for knowledge and her passion for nursing education shaped her memorable life. The proposal for the PhD program in nursing at the U of A was developed and approved by the university under her leadership. It was the first such program in Canada.

MacPhail was the author of more than 100 published articles on nursing and nursing education and was a published book author and contributor. She was a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and an honorary life member of the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses. Amongst her many appointments, McPhail served as first vice-president of the Canadian Nurses Association.

Lipid materials could decrease dependence on fossil fuels

The Lipid Products Research Alberta team, based at the U of A, are developing a new use for vegetable oils that will allow manufacturers to reduce their dependence on petroleum sources.

Polyurethane is a chemical used in the production of foams, adhesives, coatings and hard plastics. One of the major raw materials for polyurethane is polyol, a petrochemical. The research team has developed a process of producing polyurethane from a bio-based polyol, specifically from canola and other vegetable oils.

The group currently has a partnership with a local building materials company to produce structured insulated panels and an Ontario-based car-part manufacturer to make foam parts. The polyurethane materials produced so far are actually 50 per cent canola oil, with 50 per cent still coming from petroleum sources, but the group is working on reducing the percentage derived from fossil fuels even further. The global polyurethane market is $10 billion per year.

"Now is a fantastic time to get into it because there's a tremendous interest in getting a hold of bio-based materials," "said Jonathan Curtis, scientific director of the Lipid Products Research Alberta team.

Why some brand names are music to our ears

Marketing professor Jennifer Argo recently published a study indicating that hearing the names of brands containing similarly repetitive phonetic sounds can influence our mood and thus our decision-making ability when it comes to choosing whether or not we frequent that establishment or buy those items.

Argo, along with her colleagues, conducted a number of studies testing brand names, including identical samples of ice cream that were given two different names: one for which the name contained a repetitive sound and one where there was none. Despite the same ice cream being used, the majority of respondents chose the brand with the repetitive-sounding name.

"Based on the results, it would say that TV and radio advertisements are critical to this strategy," Argo said. "But the employees are also critical. Before customers order, a server can remind them of the name of the restaurant they're at. Sales people can talk with customers and mention the brand name."

Argo also found developing a name that does not follow a natural linguistic sound, for example, "ranthfanth," causes respondents to display negative affects when these conditions were present.

Study shows hepatitis C virus damages brain cells

Raquel Maurier

A University of Alberta researcher specializing in neurological infections has discovered that the hepatitis C virus injures and inflames brain cells, resulting in neurological issues for some patients living with the disease. Until now, no one has been able to prove this.

A recent Canadian study suggests that 13 per cent of people with hepatitis C, a chronic condition that affects 300,000 Canadians, also have neurological problems. Other research has suggested the hepatitis C virus might penetrate the blood-brain barrier. Chris Power, the Canada Research Chair in Neurological Infection and Immunity with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, and his team decided to tackle this theory conducting experiments on human cadavers.

"We saw the virus in the brain of a deceased patient who had hepatitis C," said Powers, who noted that normally it is very difficult for any type of virus or infection to pass the blood-brain barrier. Based on this discovery, the researchers made three new and major findings. The hepatitis C virus damaged those neurons in the brain responsible for motor functions, memory and concentration. The virus also triggered inflammation of the brain, which contributed to more neurons being damaged. And, thirdly, the virus stopped a natural process in the brain cells called autophagy, in which the cells get rid of unwanted toxic proteins. So, instead, the brain cells were accumulating large amounts of these toxic proteins, causing further damage to the brain cells.

> "For a long time, the medical community has recognized some people who have hepatitis C also have memory loss and poor concentration, which is very disabling for those patients."
>
> Chris Power

"For a long time, the medical community has recognized some people who have hepatitis C also have memory loss and poor concentration, which is very disabling for those patients," says Power. "Now we have some understanding about the cause of these neurological symptoms that can lead to the development of future treatments for people with hepatitis C.

"This discovery is significant because this is the first time anyone has confirmed that the hepatitis C virus can infect and injure brain cells."

The research conducted by Power and his team was funded by an Emerging Team Grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. He collaborated with Babita Agrawal and Jack Jhamandas, both of the U of A, and Chris Richardson of Dalhousie University in Halifax. The discoveries by Power and his team were published this month in the prestigious *Public Library of Science(PLoS) One* journal.

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Professor flies high to get physical-activity message across to seniors

Jane Hurly

Exercise physiology professor Normand Boulé has found an unusual but effective way to share the "physical activity for life message" with seniors—and he does it as an acrobat.

Partnering with his spouse, professional circus artist Lyne Gosselin, the couple takes their engaging act to seniors' residences and centres, performing a short routine, and involving the seniors and their caregivers in activities that help them "join the circus" too.

And he says the seniors lap it up. "Our theme is that we are an elderly couple in our 60's or 70's and we're going to do our exercises to an exercise video. But instead of doing the traditional push-ups and stretches, we have adapted them to our circus moves," says Boulé. He and Gosselin transform from apparent decrepitude into balletic, energetic, impossibly limber acrobats, complete with dramatic lifts and feats of balance before once again transforming into an inactive, aging couple.

"There's a lot of humour involved and it's a lot of fun," says Boulé, who normally plays tennis for exercise. "After we've performed we spend 35–40 minutes teaching seniors some circus skills. We have them juggle scarves, balance peacock feathers or we teach the staff at the centres how to make pyramids and balance on us. It's a very interactive show and we get the audience to move."

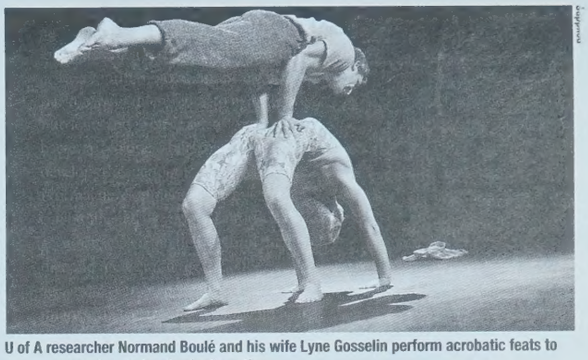
So how does a tennis-playing, diabetes researcher become an acrobat? Rather serendipitously as it turns out. What began as an act of devotion to his spouse has evolved into an unexpected passion for Boulé.

"When Lyne became pregnant I told her I would help her in any way I could with her work," he explains. "I couldn't envision what that would mean, but she was booked to do a show when she was three or four months pregnant."

During her pregnancy, Boulé had helped Gosselin practice, learning the tricks with her partner first to make sure they could be executed safely.

"Lyne is the porter, the one who does all the lifting and carrying, and so I took over her role," he says. "Someone had to do it and in the spirit of 'the show must go on' and my early promise to help out in any way possible, I ended up doing the show in front of the prime minister and national media, the president of the university and our dean. That was my introduction to acrobatics."

There's been no shortage of work with Boulé and Gosselin receiving requests to perform from many different groups. They've also received an Alberta Arts Council grant for $5,000 to develop their seniors' show and to present it at 10 different seniors' centres in the next year. To Boulé, it's good news for both of them. "This marries Lyne's love of circus arts with my work interest in health promotion, healthy living and aging. And it's a fun way to give back to the community."



U of A researcher Normand Boulé and his wife Lyne Gosselin perform acrobatic feats to encourage seniors to be physically active.

Martha Cook Piper Prize recipient engineers palate of 'glowing' proteins

Geoff McMaster

One of the most important biochemical advances of the past century has been determining how to use fluorescent proteins to highlight processes inside living cells.

In recognition of the achievement, the American team that first discovered this florescent protein in the 1990s was awarded the 2008 Nobel Prize in chemistry. But since then, the U of A's Robert Campbell, who trained with a member of that illustrious team, has taken the initial breakthrough and run with it, developing ever more sophisticated tools to reveal a colourful map of cellular protein function.

"My lab is working to expand the range of biochemical processes that can be visualized with fluorescent protein technology," said Campbell, recipient of the Martha Cook Piper Research Prize for his short but prolific career at the U of A. "Our goal is to open up yet more windows into the cell and allow researchers to see even more things that they've never been able to see before."

Supplied

Robert Campbell has played a leading role in advancing the use of flourescent proteins to highlight processes in living cells.

According to the U of A's dean of science Gregory Taylor, Campbell "has an outstanding research and funding record for a young scientist. [His] research has the potential to revolutionize our understanding of fundamental biological processes operating within living cells."

There are thousands of proteins inside cells that control vital chemical processes. If they fail to work properly, the result can be illness and death, which is why it is so important to develop a complete map of protein function in the body. Such a map is drawn by "engineering fluorescent protein variants that change their fluorescence color or intensity in response to a specific biochemical event inside of a living cell," says Campbell.

Campbell completed his doctorate at the University of British Columbia in 2000. He then joined Nobel Laureate Roger Tsien at the University of California at San Diego. After three years there, Campbell accepted a Tier II Canada Research Chair in Bioanalytical Chemistry at the U of A, where he quickly developed a host of new biotools.

And there is no doubt, he says, that the U of A has helped him thrive.

"Right from day one, the University of Alberta has provided me with an ideal environment to do this research. I've really benefited from the overall strength of research at the U of A, since it has meant I just have to walk across campus to establish collaborations with world-class biologists who can make great use of the new tools that are coming out of our lab.

"However, the aspect of our research that I enjoy most is brainstorming up new ideas with students. Mentoring of students who are enthusiastic and full of fresh ideas provides me with all of the rewards I need in this job."

"Campbell's new fluorescent-based tools have been highly sought after by other researchers; hundreds of groups have requested his tools," says University of Illinois chemist Jonathan Sweedler. "Thus, as these groups publish using his tools, the impact of Campbell's work will explode."

The Martha Cook Piper Research Prize was established to commemorate the significant contribution Martha Piper made to the research community while vice-president, research, and vice-president, research and external affairs, at the University of Alberta between 1993 and 1996.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Jan. 14, 2011

The John H. Meier, Jr. Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction Collection. This exhibition presents examples of first editions of all the titles that have won Canada's prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction from its inception to the present. Noon–4:30 p.m. Rutherford Library.

Until Nov. 9

Mini Medical School. Running every Tuesday for eight weeks, the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry is presenting this lecture series on topics from dentistry and surgery to nutrition and acupuncture. 7–9 p.m. Bernard Snell Hall. Go to www.cpl.ualberta for more information.

Oct. 4–31

About Books: The work of members of the Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild, Alberta North Chapter. Foyer, Rutherford South Rutherford Library, North and South (Humanities and Social Sciences).

Oct. 7–Nov. 20

Polar Impact. This exhibit is an exhibition celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Circumpolar Institute. It looks at the changes in the polar and subpolar regions of the world and it highlights aspects of some of the research carried out by University of Alberta faculty in these unique and sensitive environments. The exhibit is open Thursdays 12–8 p.m., and Friday and Saturday 12–5 p.m. Gallery A in the TELUS Centre (87 Ave. and 111 St.). Admission is free.

Oct. 22

Golden Bears Hockey. Versus University of Lethbridge Pronghorns 7:30 p.m. Clare Drake Arena. For a listing of all Golden Bears and Panda athletics, go to www.bears.ualberta.ca.

Oct. 23

U of A Open House. Each October the U of A holds its annual open house, featuring a booth fair, presentations, campus tours, special events and prize giveaways. 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Butterdome. For more information, go to www.registrar.ualberta.ca/openhouse.

Oct. 25

Book Launch. Come celebrate the launch of three new books at St. Joseph's College: "Evolutionary Creation," and "I Love Jesus and I Accept Evolution," by Denis Lamoureux; and "Hunting: Philosophy for Everyone," an edited anthology by Nathan Kowalsky. Join us at 3:15 pm for wine and cheese in the Faculty Lounge. (Speeches at 3:30 pm). All interested students and staff are welcome.

Oct. 26

Office of the Registrar Pie in the Face Day. Donate $2 to have a pie put in the face of a fellow colleague. Pay $2 to have it sent back to the person who sent it to them, pay $5 to send it to someone new. Pay $10 to get out of the game all together. All proceeds to the campus United Way Campaign. 1:30–3:30 p.m. Administration Building.

The 2010 Gairdner Foundation Symposium. Topic: Translational Research—a Canadian perspective. 2–5 p.m. Bernard Snell Hall Theatre University of Alberta Hospital (Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre). For more information, go to www.gairdner.org.

Oct. 28

The National Institutes of Health: Post-award Considerations. This session will address the key issues related to the post-award management of NIH awards. The presenter will describe the NIH requirements in relation to annual carryover request, annual reporting of personnel time commitments, financial reporting, consortium sub-award management, and institutional assurances. Please register via the link below. 9:30–11 a.m. 2-117 Clinical Sciences. http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=4616.

Narrating livelihoods across rural-urban spaces: Migration, networks and risks – A Chinese case. Heather Zhang, professor at the University of Leeds, will be the first speaker in series of seminars promoting an international dialogue between faculty around the world exploring contemporary issues within China. 10–11 a.m., 311 Pembina Hall.

Oct. 29

Campus Recreation Zombie Thriller Dance. Come out to learn all the moves. All proceeds to the U of A United Way. Noon–1 p.m. Main Gym.

Nov. 1

MACH 2 Enterprise Quartet with Tanya Prochazka 8 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

Nov. 4

Fostering Talent in China: Building Cities and Developing the Nation. Lisa Hoffman, professor at the University of Washington in Tacoma, will present at this seminar series promoting an international dialogue between faculty around the world exploring contemporary issues within China. 10–11 a.m., 311 Pembina Hall.

CIUS Seminar Series. Ukraine's geopolitical role today. 3 p.m. 227 Athabasca Hall.

Nov. 5

"Women and Islam." Public lecture to be presented by Ghada Talhami, D. K. Pearsons professor emerita of politics, Lake Forest College. 3 p.m. Senate Chambers, 326 Old Arts Building.

Photos: Michael Holly | Creative Services

the drum is the weapon of choice

Music professor Michael MacDonald's Music 103 (History of Popular Music) class hosted a drum circle on Oct. 13 with the Music is a Weapon U of A chapter. Music is a Weapon is a predominantly student-run organization dedicated to strengthening community through art.

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 5
McCalla attraction
Theoretical physicist hopes magnetism in the classroom sticks

Page 7
Festival of Ideas
Edmonton site of a Nobel reunion of sorts

Page 8
Paying it forward
Staffer makes giving to University Bursaries and Emergency Funding a priority

Volume 48 Issue 5 | November 5, 2010 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

U of A student group suspended pending investigation

Folio Staff

Following allegations that surfaced in the Oct. 21 edition the U of A student newspaper, *The Gateway,* regarding student behaviour involving the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, U of A Dean of Students Frank Robinson announced Oct. 28 that the registration of the DKE as a student group is suspended until further notice.

The dean of students took the action under the Code of Student Behaviour, which empowers the dean to immediately suspend a student group if the dean reasonably believes that the group's activities have endangered or would potentially endanger or threaten the health, safety or well-being of students and/or violates the Code of Student Behaviour.

An investigation under the code by University of Alberta Protective Services into the allegations against DKE is ongoing.

"The safety and well-being of our students at the U of A is our utmost priority, and we take these allegations very seriously," said Robinson. "We have a comprehensive Code of Student Behaviour in place that clearly lays out expectations for our students and student groups, and provides the university with the ability to deal with situations when they arise.

"There is no place at the U of A for any behaviour that endangers or potentially endangers or threatens the health, safety or well-being of our students."

Anyone with information regarding this matter is encouraged to bring it forward to Protective Services or the Office of the Dean of Students. Any student that may be affected by these activities is encouraged to access the full suite of confidential student services available at the university.

Give to the goat

Michael Brown

The Oct. 27 Give to the Goat United Way fundraiser organized by students in the Faculty of Education raised $400 for the cause.

The U of A makes the sustainability grade

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta has been named one of the most sustainable universities in North America on a scorecard designed to compare and help improve sustainability practices across 322 Canadian and American institutions of higher education.

The College Sustainability Report Card, put out by the Cambridge University-based Sustainable Endowments Institute, named the U of A a "Campus Sustainability Leader" for achieving an average grade of "A-" or better across the report's six campus sustainability categories.

"We think there are a lot of positive things going on here," said Trina Innes, director of the Office of Sustainability. "But sustainability is about continually looking at the way we do things and finding ways to do it better."

Of the six sustainability categories, the U of A received "A" grades in the areas of student involvement, transportation and green building, and B grades in climate change and energy, food and recycling and administration.

The U of A scored a full letter grade higher over the last report in the "Green Building" category, thanks in part to five new projects—Edmonton Clinic Health Academy, Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science – Phase 2, Cooling Plant on Campus, East Campus Village and Chemical Materials Engineering—currently under construction, all of which are pursuing top designation from a number of construction certification programs. These projects are alongside the university's green-building jewel, Triffo Hall, which, among a host of innovations, utilizes rainwater capture and storage for toilets and features waterless urinals.

"It's not just new construction," said Bart Becker, U of A associate vice-president of Facilities and Operations. "We have a number of programs in place designed to lower our energy use, which has a side benefit of lowering operating costs. You get the economic benefit and the fact that it is the right thing to do all at the same time."

Becker said he is especially proud of the university's Energy Management Program. Now in the seventh year of the program, the university has invested almost $21 million to upgrade existing buildings on campus in an effort to lower operating cost. The savings ultimately pay for the upgrading costs.

"New construction is easy," said Becker. "You design to a certain standard, and you know what your targets are. I'm more impressed by what we do with our existing inventory."

Going forward, Innes says the long-term prospects of retaining the "Campus Sustainability Leader" designation are good, as the full value of the Office of Sustainability was not fully realized in the report, given that the office came to be midway through the scoring year.

> "What is important to get out of this report is sustainability isn't static."
>
> Trina Innes

During 2010–11, Innes says the Office of Sustainability will also be launching a number of initiatives designed to improve the university's sustainability.

The office has plans to launch a sustainability representatives program, where each faculty and department would have the opportunity to run a sustainability campaign in their area. Innes says the campus can also expect the creation of a Sustainability Advisory Committee, green purchasing principles, and a new campus commitment program, where 20 actions will be promoted as new sustainable behaviours.

Facilities and Operations also has plans to complete both a sustainable food initiative and a greenhouse gas inventory and will be piloting an organic turf management program where non-chemical techniques are used for managing turf on campus.

Sustainability continued on page 3

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Antibiotic could be the key to treating heart ailments

Quinn Phillips

A researcher at the University of Alberta has discovered that treating basic heart ailments could be as simple as using a well-known antibiotic.

Richard Schulz, a professor of pediatrics and pharmacology in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, and his team were looking at a specific type of cardiac injury called ischemia reperfusion injury. This happens when a patient suffers a heart attack caused by a blockage in a coronary artery. The sooner the blockage is relieved by reperfusion, or blood flow, the less overall damage the heart muscle receives and the better the recovery for the patient.

But in many types of heart disease the body's largest protein, titin, is cut into pieces inside the heart. This is dangerous because titin is a major contributor in the heart's filling and pumping action. Schulz and his team discovered that a molecule found in the heart muscle—Matrix Metalloproteinase-2, or MMP2—that is cutting titin.

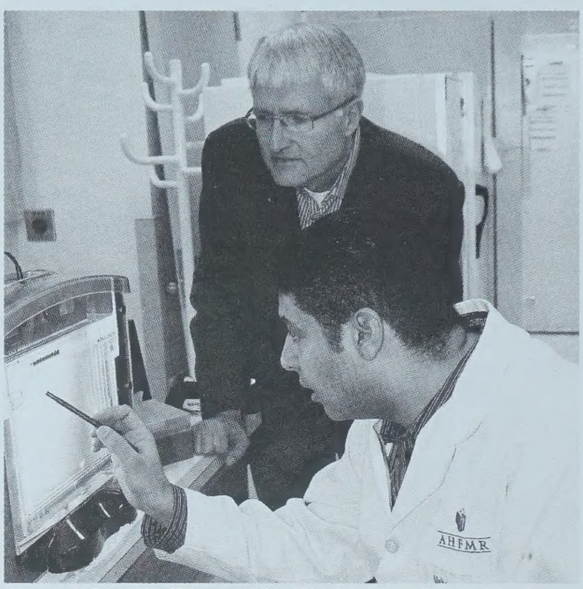
By targeting MMP2, Schulz says the occurrence of titin being cut will be significantly lessened. That targeting, or inhibiting of MMP2, can be done by using the tetracycline family of drugs, known for their effectiveness as antibiotics and also used for acne sufferers,

"The exciting thing about this is that people have not considered using MMP inhibitors to treat very basic heart diseases," said Schulz, who added it is an inexpensive drug that should be tested as a treatment for one of Canada's top killers, cardiovascular disease.

Schulz is also thinking more broadly. Ischemia reperfusion is a type of oxidative-stress injury to the heart, whereby the body produces too many chemically reactive molecules containing oxygen, and this overwhelms the body's anti-oxidant protective systems. Excess oxidative stress is thought to be the cause of a number of heart problems. Antioxidants might reduce the risk of this dangerous process, says Schulz, but as MMP2 is activated by oxidative stress, its inhibitors could compromise more specific and effective drugs to use to treat patients with heart diseases.

"You find a kernel of where things could affect a lot of pathways to heart disease, whether it's ischemia reperfusion or heart failure or transplant rejection," said Schulz, whose work is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. "We have a feeling that this is something that could be used for a wide variety of heart diseases."

Schulz's team will now test MMP2 inhibitors in a number of heart disease models. The results of this study were published in the Nov. 1 edition of *Circulation*.



Ken Mathewson

(Foreground) Researcher Mohammad Ali and Rick Schulz have discovered that the MMP2 molecule is responsible for cutting an essential protein in heart tissue.

Duck deaths show need for more tailings-pond studies

Brian Murphy

News out of Fort McMurray that more ducks landed on an oilsands tailings pond in October reconfirmed a University of Alberta researcher's hunch that weather changes may be linked to the fatal incidents.

Biologist Colleen Cassady St. Clair is already deeply involved in the issue of ducks and tailings ponds going back to an initial Syncrude tragedy in 2008. Part of the $3-million penalty Syncrude must pay for the 1,600 ducks killed two years ago will go towards St. Clair's U of A research into bird migration and the effectiveness of bird landing deterrents.

St. Clair says the ducks that landed on another Syncrude tailings pond might have something in common with the 2008 incident.

"Immediately it came to my mind that both incidents followed a rapid change in the weather," said St. Clair. "In 2008, and again with this recent occurrence, the ducks were migrating, and there was a dramatic cold snap that was followed by a corresponding change in barometric pressure. This has never been studied in relation to duck landings in the oilsands."

St. Clair says analysis of weather changes and the probability of ducks landing en masse was already on her list of things to review with the $1.3 million the court ordered Syncrude to pay towards her research.

Looking at the existing technology oilsands companies use to keep ducks from the tailings ponds is also part of the U of A's research

Currently oilsands operators are using sound cannons, industrial alarms, sirens, hunting sounds and even an audio program that sends bird calls mimicking birds in distress. "I also want to investigate the use of radar to track the movement of migrating ducks," said St. Clair. "By tracking the birds when they're a long way off, the best deterrence system can be ramped up well in advance.

St. Clair says that when looking at current deterrence systems, researchers will also consider how they work with other factors such as vegetation and terrain around tailings ponds, plus the effect weather changes have on a migrating flock's behaviour.

"I'm willing to bet that there is not a single deterrent system that is best in all circumstances," said St. Clair.

Students call for total cellphone-use ban while driving

Jamie Hanlon

If passed, the Province of Alberta's currently proposed Bill 16 will make it unlawful to use hand-held devices such as cellphones while driving.

However, a group of students from the University of Alberta's School of Public Health are encouraging legislators to look at changing the scope of the bill to include a total ban, including hands-free cellphone usage, while driving—a move that would make Alberta the first jurisdiction to pass such a law. The students presented their evidence-based research on the issue during a press conference at the Telus Centre Nov. 3.

Challenging the myth of successful multitasking while driving, the students believe that a cellphone-while-driving ban should include all hands-free mobile phone devices. The students reported that the conversation, not the device, is the distraction for the motorist. Unlike listening to the radio or having a conversation with a passenger, the cellphone conversation causes a condition called inattention blindness, said student spokesperson Kaitlin Robertson.

"The driver may see something on the road, but is not fully perceiving it," she said. "They can't fully react as properly as they should to a pedestrian or a car making a turn in front of them."

Citing a U of A study about driver perception and the dangers of cellphone use while operating a motor vehicle, the students identified that this study and an opinion poll conducted by the Alberta Motor Association both show that Albertans largely support legislation that regulates all wireless communication devices while driving. The challenge, they note, is bending the political will to move to a total ban on cellphone use in vehicles.

Student spokesperson Isabelle Colmers noted that the students in her group met with roughly one third of the province's MLAs to present their evidence and gauge support for both the bill and a hypothetical amendment for a total ban. Suggesting that a total ban could potentially reduce health-care costs by $140 million annually and save countless lives, the students found that the MLAs who were surveyed supported Bill 16, but only 37 per cent said yes to a total ban on cellphone usage while driving. Surprisingly, Colmers noted, 19 per cent of those surveyed responded beyond a yes/no answer option to say that Albertans were not ready for such a move. Colmers claims that, according to their findings, Albertans are ready. And she urged the government to reconsider the bill so that it includes a total ban on cellphone usage while driving.

"This is Alberta's chance to get it right. Alberta is one of the last provinces to introduce regulation for cellphone use while driving," said Colmers. "Yet, we have the opportunity to lead other provinces, territories and states across North America by being the first to ban hands-free use. As well, we can set the standard for road safety.

"It's important for us to keep this story alive so we can keep Albertans alive."

Health centre announces remaining flu-shot clinics

Folio Staff

The University Health Centre, working closely with the Faculty of Nursing, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and Human Resource Services, will hold an influenza vaccination "blitz" for all U of A students and staff on the following dates:

- Campus Saint-Jean:
Nov. 16., 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Grand Salon, Pavilion Lacerte.
- Enterprise Square:
Nov. 17, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
Green Room, located just north of Rutherford Bookstore.

Note that the University Health Centre (2-200 SUB) is offering influenza shots onsite starting on Oct. 15.

The clinics will be open only to students and staff, not to family members, because of the set amount of vaccine the university is receiving. Public clinics run by Alberta Health Services are again open across the province and available to every Alberta resident. Any family member of staff and students can access the seasonal influenza shot that way.

Staff and students will be asked to identify themselves (e.g. ONEcard or equivalent) before receiving the vaccination, as well as provide an Alberta health-care number (or the equivalent).

To help facilitate the efficient operation of the vaccination blitz, please try to avoid either choosing to show up first thing on the first day, or leaving it to the last day. You can also help speed things up by ensuring you bring the proper documentation, as above, and if possible, by wearing short-sleeved clothing.

For information about clinics in the community and seasonal influenza, please visit www.uhc.ualberta.ca.

Big step taken towards making small chips

Brian Murphy

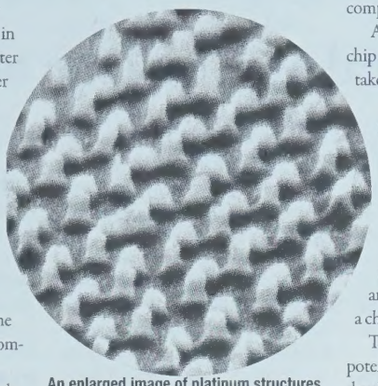
Plastic, heated in a simple microwave oven, is the technique researchers at the University of Alberta and the National Institute for Nanotechnology believe could help to re-invent the manufacture of computer chips.

Jillian Buriak, a U of A chemistry professor and NINT researcher, says in the drive to reduce the size of computer chips and speed up its production, her team achieved both goals.

"When we heat block copolymer plastics, which are two different plastics attached together, the molecules begin separating and naturally self-assemble," said Buriak. She describes the self-assembly of copolymer molecules as the same natural process in which human DNA molecules recognize one another and bind together to form complex and well-defined structures.

"In the case of heating, block copolymer plastics, the molecules spontaneously line up, creating nano-sized lines that act as a template for intricate circuitry patterns that can be imprinted on silicon to make computer chips."

A computer chip with the circuitry imprint created by the self-assembly process developed by Buriak's research team would then go through the following production process: Tiny wires, whose widths are measured in nanometres, are hundreds of times smaller than a human hair, and can be made of conducting metals, which would be laid along the circuitry lines etched into the template.



An enlarged image of platinum structures create by copolymer self-assembly.

To mass produce computer chips, the industry currently uses photolithography, where light carves circuit patterns on silicon chips. Ken Harris, a NINT researcher says, "the industry is now seeking out a new generation of technologies capable of continuing the miniaturization of computer chips in a cost-effective and practical manner."

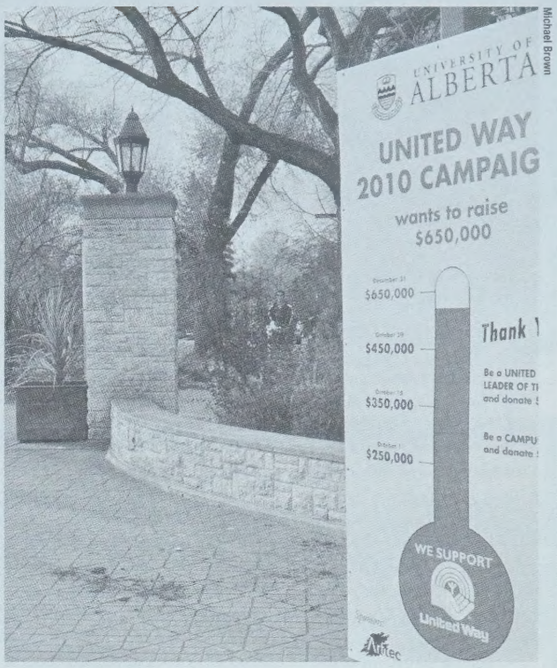
Harris says the team's heat and self-assembly technique produces denser patterns of lines on chips, which means an overall increase in the processing speed and storage capacity of next generation computers.

Another concern for the computer-chip industry is the amount of time it takes to turn out their products.

"The industry wants a manufacturing process that's cheaper than photolithography for these very small feature sizes, but fast," said Buriak. "They asked for an inexpensive self-assembly process that could work in under four minutes. With our microwave oven and copolymer plastics we produced a chip template in one minute."

The research team is talking with potential industrial partners to further develop their process. "We're very excited about the possibilities of the block copolymer self assembly technique, not just for computer chips, but also for tissue engineering, interfacing of living cells with silicon and other really intriguing applications," she said.

Almost there



Michael Brown

The five-week United Way campus campaign wrapped up Oct. 22. Thus far, the university community has raised $600,000 towards the $650,000 campaign goal. Donations will be accepted as part of this year's target until Dec. 31.

U of A law institute has hand in revising rules for Alberta courts

Jamie Hanlon

In November, the Alberta civil court system began playing by a new set of rules with a definitive University of Alberta connection.

Last revised in 1968, the new Rules of Court, governing the policies and procedures of the court system in the province, are the product of a project undertaken by the Faculty of Law's Alberta Law Reform Institute. The project, which took about six years to complete, was done in consultation with volunteer members of the legal community whose knowledge of the system was used to help revise the old rules. However, as the institute's Carol Burgess explains, it was not simply an updating of the old rules; it was a complete rewrite.

"There are some basic premises we used to rewrite them," she said. "We used plain language, and we tried to give them a better flow and organization."

These changes will make the rules clearer, more effective and more useful for both lawyers and laypeople to understand their meaning and follow the flow of civil-court proceedings. While the plain, simplified English and easy-to-follow formats may be a welcome change for some, Burgess notes that the re-numbering of the old rules may take a bit of getting used to, especially for clerks, judges and lawyers who have grown accustomed to the old way. Aside from revamping the system, other changes have been made to reflect new processes that were not even on the horizon in the 1960s, such as how to handle electronic evidence.

All Alberta lawyers have been participating in education sessions on the new rules, a project undertaken by the Legal Education Society, Burgess said, while noting that the institute has been "doing some direct education to the judges." For people representing themselves, such as in matters before a small-claims court, Burgess says they would notice a very distinct difference as well.

"The forms are different and the processes are easier to understand," she said. "It does help a self-represented individual by making the law more accessible."

Burgess says this is the institutes largest project in its 40-year existence. In the past, the institute has been instrumental in recommending changes to provincial legislation such as Business Corporations Act, the Matrimonial Property Act, the Arbitration Act and the Civil Enforcement Act.

The Rules of Court project yielded yet another milestone for the institute: It was the first project that required the collaborative effort of the entire staff. Burgess noted that their lawyers would normally work on their own individual projects, but given the scope and magnitude of the work undertaken, it was very much a joint effort. Ultimately, changing the Rules of Court also had a changing impact on their team's operation as well.

"That challenged us to do things a bit differently. It changed the way we communicated with each other," said Burgess. "We had to rethink our processes and in the end we started to think 'maybe we could do the rest of our work a bit differently now.'"

Sustainability

continued from page 1

Finally, Innes says the university is looking into the possibility of creating an embedded sustainability certificate for students who take a certain number of courses with sustainability content.

"As we learn more from the SEI report card, and as a charter participant in the newly launched Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System, we will identify opportunities for our campus community to work together to enhance our performance," said Innes. "Success requires interaction, collaboration and engagement of the whole institution."

The U of A's overall grade on the report moved from a "B+" in 2009 to a "B" this year. Innes says the report indicated that some grades shifted because the report parameters were adjusted to award credit based on factors beyond the mere existence of an initiative. Therefore, in the case of the U of A's showing in the report's sustainable endowment categories, a grade may have changed while the actual activity level has remained constant.

"Shareholder engagement, for example, is low at virtually every Canadian institution because of the nature of how we guide our investments, and our score reflected that this year," said Innes. "What is important to get out of this report is sustainability isn't static. The report card is a way to bring awareness to campus sustainability and help universities raise the bar every year and continue to improve and do more and more and more.

"We're always trying to learn how other universities have raised the bar, and I think we'll improve upon our performance next year."

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Erin Plume, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Oct. 22 "Are You a Winner?" contest, after she correctly identified the object in the photo as the top of Athabasca Hall's front entrance. For identifying the photo in question, Plume has won a coveted Butterdome butter dish along with "The Contemporary Arab Reader on Political Islam," courtesy of the U of A Press. Addressing the key issues such as Shari'ah, human rights, civil society, secularism, globalization and ummah, and the impact of the West on the modern Arab world, this book is the perfect starting point for students and academics looking to understand "political Islam" in contemporary Arab and Muslim societies.

Up for grabs this week is another lowly Butterdome butter dish. To win, simply identify where on campus the object of the picture is located. Email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Nov. 12, and you will be entered into the draw.

WE SUPPORT United Way

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA UNITED WAY 2010 CAMPAIGN

The University of Alberta thanks the following faculty, staff, retirees and students for giving of their time to serve on the 2010 University of Alberta United Way Campaign Committee

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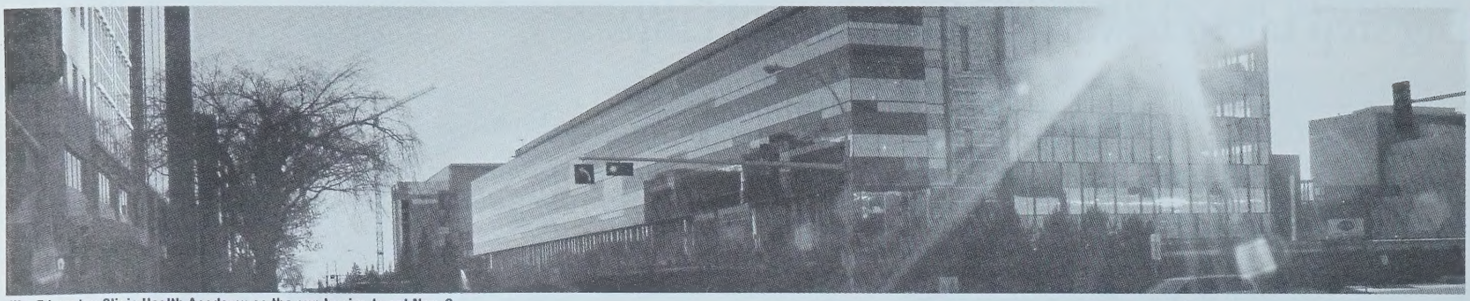


Ken Mathewson

The Edmonton Clinic Health Academy as the sun begins to set Nov. 3.

New partnership with Chinese liberal arts college announced

Christopher Thrall

The University of Alberta's Augustana Campus in Camrose has reached a partnership agreement with a fledgling liberal arts college in China. The agreement, signed this month, establishes a framework for co-operation in teaching, research, student and faculty mobility between the campus and United International College in the city of Zhuhai.

"Throughout China, the post-secondary sector is growing exponentially," said U of A Augustana Dean Roger Epp, who visited the college in April. "With United International College, we've found a strikingly like-minded, collaborative partner in an important country."

United International College is building a new model of higher education among its 4,000 students on the southeast coast of China. Founded in 2005 as a joint venture of Beijing Normal University and Hong Kong Baptist University, it describes its particular purpose as advancing internationalization and "taking the lead in implementing liberal arts education in China." The college curriculum stresses a philosophy of holistic education across all of its 16 degree programs, which are organized into three divisions: business and management, humanities and social science and science and technology. The language of instruction is English.

"The world is going to have to understand China, and a globally minded campus like ours has a responsibility to give students an opportunity to experience the country and its culture," said Epp. "In some respects the college represents a soft landing, an entry-point, for a student going on exchange or for a faculty member considering a sabbatical.

"At the same time, we want United International College students and professors to shape global learning on our campus. I hope that we can each demonstrate to our respective campuses that this is a good opportunity to build faculty champions on both sides."

Augustana professors have begun meeting to consider how to take advantage of the relationship with United International College.

"While this is very much a forward-looking agreement, there is also a historic dimension to it in our centennial year," said Epp. "I couldn't help but be mindful that stepping into China was stepping into the country that formed Chester Ronning." Ronning was principal of what was then Camrose Lutheran College from 1927 to 1942. Born in China to Norwegian parents, he returned to teach in the early 1920s and returned again in a significant diplomatic role during World War II, beginning a distinguished foreign service career. He was a long-time friend of Premier Zhou Enlai.

Augustana is the University of Alberta's undergraduate liberal-arts campus in Camrose, Alberta, with close to 1,000 students in arts, sciences, music and management degree programs.

University 101 will return

University 101 will return for the Nov. 22 folio with an expanded look at the roles and duties of all the University of Albera's senior administrators.

A Festival of Ideas worth celebrating

Debra Pozega-Osburn
Vice-president, external relations

the open door

Academic communities run on ideas. We initiate them, debate them, trade them. We wrestle with ideas, tinker with them, toss them out for deliberation. We examine them, deconstruct them and refresh them.

And in the middle of all that, we just like to have fun with them.

The 2010 University of Alberta's Festival of Ideas, in partnership with the City of Edmonton and with the foundational support of Capital Power Corporation, gives us a chance to challenge ourselves in the kind of thought-provoking exchange of ideas that characterizes our community. For five days beginning Nov. 17 (with a "sneak preview" in Calgary the day before) we will engage in lively discussions through performers and presenters ranging from satirists and playwrights to Pulitzer Prize-winners and priests, from Nobel laureates and baroque dancers to poets and rap artists.

As co-chair of the Festival of Ideas, along with our Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Carl Amrhein, I invite you to join us at one or all of the many thought-provoking lectures, presentations, debates and discussions that will take place throughout the city of Edmonton, on our campuses and at our Calgary Centre. I think you'll find this year's theme—"Truth and Lies: Trust Me"—particularly intriguing at a time when we are bombarded daily with information from sources we never even knew existed before the onset of social media, digitized mobile advertisements, and such now-ubiquitous devices as the iPad and the BlackBerry.

Of course, at the University of Alberta, the notion of a focus on discerning truth is as old as the institution itself. It was in 1912 that the U of A's first president, Henry Marshall Tory, and his fellow professors decided on the university's motto: *quaecumque vera*—or whatsoever things are true.

Even then the academic community recognized that finding, compiling and interpreting information could be at once energizing and mind-boggling. Today's "information overload" society leaves us wrestling with age-old questions in modern ways: Where does the truth lie? Who can we trust to find it?

Difficult questions, all. But as Tory once said: "Every man owes to the generation in which he lives the last full measure of devotion to whatsoever things are true."

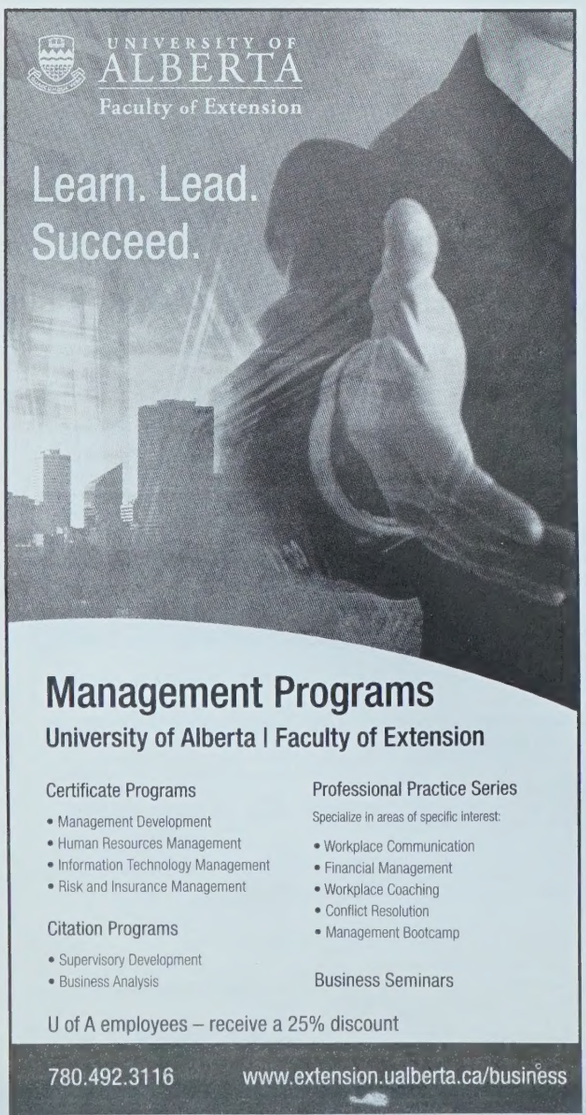
You'll find more information about each of our guests as well as how to get tickets at www.festivalofideas.ca.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Festival notables

And who are those provocative thinkers, writers, artists, and scientists who, through our Festival of Ideas 2010, will join us in our ongoing search for truth?

- Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jared Diamond.
- Photographer Edward Burtynsky—whose exhibit called "Oil" is currently on display at the Art Gallery of Alberta.
- Climate scientist Tim Flannery.
- Former minister of fisheries and oceans, now environmental advocate, Tom Siddon.
- The director of the Vatican Observatory, Father José G. Funes.
- Latin American poet and Nobel-nominee Ernesto Cardenal.
- Astrophysicist Neil Comins.
- Les Jardins Chorégraphiques and Ensembles Masques Montreal.
- Rap troubadour Baba Brinkman.
- Edmonton favourite, writer Myrna Kostash.
- Governor General award winner and playwright Vern Thiessen.
- Turkish writer and Nobel Prize winner for Literature Orhan Pamuk.
- Poet and Nobel laureate Derek Walcott.
- Authors and human rights activists Mende Nazer and Ayaan Hirsi Ali, in conversation with CBC radio's host of Writers and Company Eleanor Wachtel.
- Satirist and writer David Sedaris.

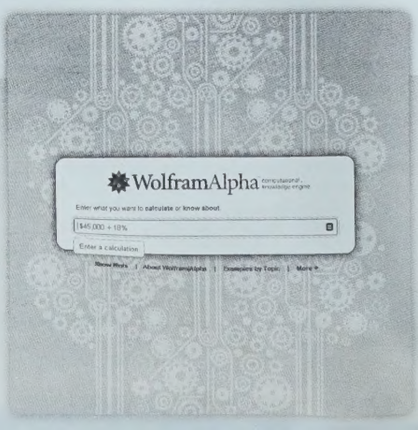


surfCity

WolframAlpha could very well raise your IQ. And, even if it doesn't, it can show you everything you've ever wanted to know about the intelligence quotient testing process.

This site is the brainchild of Stephen Wolfram, a British physicist, software developer, mathematician and author. The goal of the "computational knowledge engine (it generates output by doing computations from its own internal knowledge base, instead of searching the web and returning links) is to bring "expert-level knowledge to everyone." So go ahead: enter your height and weight for up-to-date health information; ask what the weather was like in Springfield, Massachusetts the day David Oritz was born. The information is there. After all, there are "many trillion" information elements, just waiting to be mined.

www.wolframalpha.com



teaching & learning, learning & teaching

McCalla brings magnetism for unanswered questions to the classroom

Michael Brown

You're not a farmer at heart if you don't have a healthy obsession with the weather. Growing up on a farm near the village of Innisfree, Richard Sydora's fascination with the weather extended beyond clouds and rain to curiosity about natural phenomenon that included everything from lightning bolts to the northern lights.

Today the University of Alberta theoretical physicist spends his time split between wondering about the causes of solar weather and figuring out how to get undergraduates to act on their interest in the universe's unanswered questions.

"I am trying to bring some modern research concepts into the classroom to show students that things are not always clearcut and solved," said Sydora. "Sometimes there are more things to understand, even if they are simple things, and there are actually deeper questions that can come out of the initial concept."

Getting students to understand that even the surest knowledge serves only to unearth even more questions is at the heart of Sydora's McCalla Professorship.

Sydora, an instructor in the interdisciplinary Science 100 introductory class, says part of his McCalla Professorship will be spent turning his research on magnetic fields into a module for the classroom that shows the impact magnetism has in different areas in science.

"Seven science departments are involved in teaching this year-long course, so we try to find topics where there is significant overlap, like radioactivity, where biological processes overlap with physics and chemistry," said Sydora. "Beyond teaching the basics, I want to show the students that there are deeper questions that one can ask about certain phenomena."

Sydora says he believes if instructors can get students to question the information they are receiving early on in their academic careers, they will be better able to think more broadly.

"Students have to learn to question concepts that they are first learning and not just accept them as a matter of fact," he said. "They must try to go deeper into the things they are learning and look across fields that can help them make a larger impact in their future work."

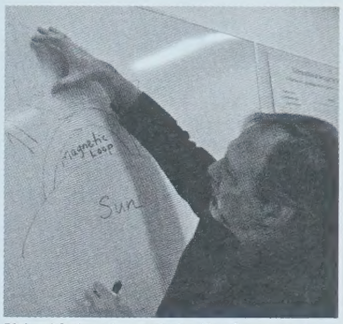
Sydora says that maybe one day one of his students will make an impact on his work, which, specifically involves how one can extract energy from magnetic fields embedded in ionized gases (or plasmas) and convert them into high-energy charged particles.

Sydora has teamed up with researchers at the Flare Lab at Bochum University in Germany in an attempt to duplicate the phenomena that creates solar flares. He says researchers know that the sun is carpeted with a series of magnetic loops that, on occasion, bulge out from the surface, twist and explosively release magnetic energy in the form of energetic plasma jets or plasmoids, which affect the Earth in the form of enhanced solar-wind disturbances.

Sydora says understanding this conversion of magnetic energy to charged-particle energy may have eventual uses in the design of particle accelerators, and down the road as an energy source.

"We know it involves some sort of complex sequence of events at a microscopic level, but knowing exactly how those magnetic field lines basically break and rejoin and then give off all of this energy is one of the challenges we have," said Sydora

The McCalla Professorships provide faculty members with an opportunity to implement strategies integrating their research and teaching. The awards provide funding for teaching release and research and teaching initiatives.



Michael Brown

Richard Sydora demonstrates the phenomenon that creates enhanced solar-wind disturbances.

Breathing easy before bringing new inhaler to market

Nadia Anderson

How do you know if the medication you're inhaling actually makes its way to your lungs? Fascinated by nebulizers and aerosol drug delivery, Warren Finlay and his PhD student Kevin Stapleton thought long and hard about this back in the mid-1990s. The models for testing inhalers at that time were modest at best—two pipes bent together at a 90-degree angle—not the best replica for the mouth and throat.

"What existed at that time to test mouth-throat deposition was overly simplistic," says Finlay, professor in the University of Alberta's Department of Mechanical Engineering. "What we needed was a simple, but more realistic model that could test inhalers at various flow rates, tracking what particles actually make their way into the lungs."

The duo decided to review CT scans of the mouth and throat, and spent many hours diving into anatomy texts. After a couple of years the first drawings of the model led to the development of prototypes. At first they made the mouth and throat replica out of wood, next fiberglass, then plastic, and finally with metal. Finlay worked with many students doing measurements to improve the models over the ensuing years, including another PhD student Yu Zhang, who helped develop an even simpler model.

"It took years of refining and testing the models to prove we had a satisfactory design that could be made from metal, as we needed it to undergo multiple cleansings to remove the drug residue, while still maintaining the quality of the model," says Finlay.

When it came to the commercialization of the "Physical Mouth Throat Model," Finlay connected with TEC Edmonton, the exclusive technology transfer agent for the U of A. Through consultation it was decided that patenting the model was not the best strategy; rather, the drawings of the model—the computer-aided design files—should be protected.

"Each discovery reported to TEC Edmonton requires an assessment—what is the intellectual property and its commercialization potential [and] how should we best protect the intellectual property," says Darrell Petras, technology transfer manager and entrepreneur-in-residence with TEC Edmonton. "The strategy we proceed with is customized and, in this case, copyright was the solution."

After presenting aspects of the idealized Physical Mouth Throat Model in publications and conferences over the years, Finlay got a call from Copley Scientific Limited, a supplier of pharmaceutical test instrumentation in the United Kingdom, and a deal was signed for Copley Scientific to have the exclusive access to the drawings.

Copley Scientific is the world's leading supplier of cascade impactors, precision instruments that are used to determine the particle size of the cloud produced, hence the efficacy and safety of pharmaceutical inhalers such as those used in the treatment of asthma.

The next step for Finlay's team is to develop a pediatric application, as well as an adult application in treatment of lung cancer and cystic fibrosis.

"I'm intrigued by the cultural divide between researchers and business," says Finlay. "Trade secrets, profits—it's a different world but when you develop something that has a greater impact, then it makes the differences between the two sides easier to swallow, or in this case, inhale."

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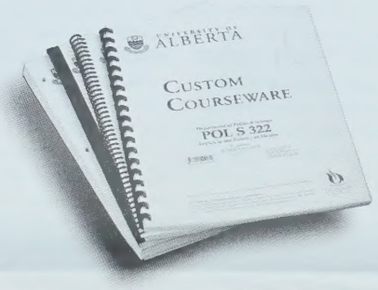

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Phosphorus identified as the missing ingredient to life

Brian Murphy

A University of Alberta geomicrobiologist and his PhD student are part of a research team that has identified phosphorus as the mystery ingredient that pushed oxygen levels in the oceans high enough to establish the first animals on Earth.

The U of A's Kurt Konhauser, student Stefan Lalonde and others re-examined established theories about the oxidation of the oceans in the wake of the last great glacier to encircle the planet.

Konhauser used one of his 2007 research papers, published in the journal *Science*, to focus the research team's work on the mineral content within bands of iron found in rock layers of ancient seabeds.

"Theories published before 2007 said phosphorus was scarce throughout much of Earth's history, but we found that it was in fact plentiful," said Konhauser.

Tanja Bosak | Massachusetts Institute of Technology

A close up of the cyanobacteria producing oxygen.

The researchers say that during Earth's most severe periods of glaciation, which occurred 750 to 580 million years ago, the planet was encircled with thick ice sheets.

"The key ingredient to the eventual oxidation of the oceans was found in the rubble of rock left behind when the glaciers receded," said Lalonde. "We believe the glacial debris that washed into the oceans contained high concentrations of phosphorus."

Phosphorus was essential to oxidation of the oceans, says Lalonde, because it sparked the growth of cyanobacteria, or blue-green-algae.

"The byproduct of blue-green-algae's metabolic process is oxygen."

"We're not sure what the oxidation threshold level was," says Konhauser, "but it finally reached a level favourable for animals to evolve."

> "[Our research] shows that phosphorus levels peaking between 750 and 635 million years ago at the very same time that complex life forms emerged."
>
> Stefan Lalonde

"[Our research] shows that phosphorus levels peaking between 750 and 635 million years ago at the very same time that complex life forms emerged," said Lalonde. "That establishes our link between phosphorus and the evolution of animals."

Konhauser and Lalonde were co-authors on the paper published Oct. 27 in *Nature*.

2010 SSHRC research grants run the gamut of research topics

Isha Thompson

Researchers in the Faculty of Arts are receiving close to $1.8 million from a national research grant agency to explore topics ranging from 19th-century erotic dancers to a 25-year study on youth-to-adult transitions.

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, which supports research excellence in the social sciences and humanities, awarded 20 arts faculty members with grants to help follow through with research initiatives that are a life's work.

"We started planning it in 1983 and got it off the ground in 1985, so this is the 25th anniversary study," said sociology professor Harvey Krahn, whose research began with the study of youth unemployment resulting from the recession in the early '80s, and how it affected the research subjects' likelihood to succeed in their adult life.

Krahn has received $110,206 from SSHRC to continue his research, which has evolved into a follow-up with the 983 Edmonton high-school seniors involved in the original study. *Transitions To Adulthood: A 25 Year Follow-up of the Class of 1985*, will examine the long-term effects of unemployment, post-secondary education, transition into adult roles and mental health and family outcomes of individuals who are now in their mid- to late-40s.

Krahn has now teamed up with psychology professor Nancy Galambos, who has research interests in transitions to adulthood, including gender roles in adolescence and the pattern of psychosocial maturity during that period.

The grant will help Krahn and Galambos conduct a new round of surveys and, with the help of the Population Research Laboratory, track down their subjects, who they have not had contact with in 11 years. Krahn notes that the evolution of technology in the 25 years he has managed this research has given way to new techniques to communicate with research subjects.

"When we started, we were using paper and pencil questionnaires, and then we moved into the telephone survey, and now web surveys and Facebook," said Krahn, adding that social media that will be heavily relied upon to track down the class of 1985.

Art and design assistant professor Amanda Boetzkes, on the other hand, will rely on traditional research techniques of visiting various libraries, galleries and exhibitions to conduct her research on *Waste, Contemporary Art and the Aesthetics of Excess*.

Boetzkes, who received $61,983 from SSHRC to investigate the use and representation of human garbage in contemporary art, will travel to New York, Washington, D.C. and Vancouver, in order to have access to the archived images that will help her unravel the growing trend of using garbage in various art forms. She argues that the appearance of durable garbage in art is "symptomatic of a drive to interrogate the current era of globalization through its patterns of consumption and waste.

"[Artists] are describing this new paradigm of this new materiality, which is a condition of the world, and also trying to critique it at the same time," said Boetzkes, referring specifically to the presence of non-decaying materials such as plastics that artists tend to utilize.

"They are trying to air our desire for these kinds of objects, and at the same time showing how that desire is ultimately destructive."

> "We started planning [the study] in 1983 and got it off the ground in 1985, so this is the 25th anniversary study."
>
> Harvey Krahn

English and film studies associate professor Cecily Devereux is also using her SSHRC grant to help analyze the work of artists. However, her focus is on performing artists in the late 19th century whose stories have been generally overlooked in history.

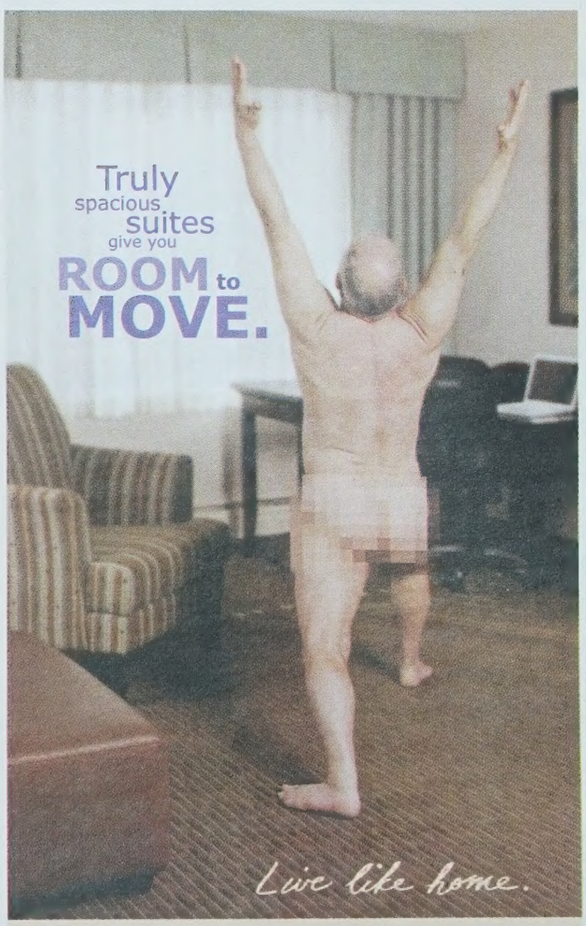
Empire's skin show: Erotic dance and the performance of white femininity, 1868–1908 will map the movement of erotic dancers through imperial space and evaluate the implications of this performance and how white femininity within the context of empire is understood.

"When you look through material from women writing about the British Empire in the 19th-century, you start to get a sense that there must be people missing, that there must be something that is not there, because there is remarkable sameness in the people that are writing that isn't indicative of what is going on in a particular space," says Devereux.

She expects to find out how the history of these women may change the way we think about histories of women in Canada and influence the idea of gender and race.

The $67,000 Devereux received from SSHRC will help to gather the necessary information and map the route of these women who travelled within the British Empire.

"Going and finding stuff is key to a project like this because the repository materials on women who dance are few and scattered," says Devereux. She will visit erotic dance collections in Ohio, New York, San Francisco and the Yukon.



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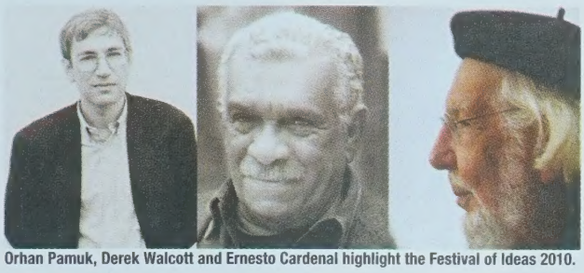
U of A's Festival of Ideas plays host to Nobel reunion of sorts

Michael Brown

Turkish novelist Orhan Pamuk and fellow Nobel laureate Derek Walcott will be joined by Nobel Prize nominee and Nicaraguan poet Ernesto Cardenal for the Festival of Ideas 2010 signature event, Nobel Night in Canada.

This event is one of many special events taking place as part of the Festival of Ideas 2010, a celebration of thought and knowledge across disciplines that runs from Nov.17 to 21 and features exceptional speakers, writers and performers, including David Sedaris, Jared Diamond and Ayaan Hirsi Ali, all of whom will be in some way addressing this year's theme "Truth and Lies: Trust Me."



Orhan Pamuk, Derek Walcott and Ernesto Cardenal highlight the Festival of Ideas 2010.

"It is not very often that one can see two laureates and one nominee on one stage," said Miki Andrejevic, executive director of the Festival of Ideas 2010. "This evening will play tribute to three giants of literature."

Pamuk is the author of eight novels, including *Snow, My Name Is Red*, and the memoir *Istanbul*. In awarding him with the 2006 Nobel Prize for Literature, the Swedish Academy praised Pamuk as one "who in the quest for the melancholic soul of his native city has discovered new symbols for the clash and interlacing of cultures."

Walcott, Distinguished Scholar in Residence at the U of A, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1992.

Originally from St. Lucia, Walcott has written more than 30 plays and 20 poetry collections during a career that started when he published his first poem at age 14. His writing, which melds a number of genres including mythology and folktales, is rooted in Caribbean post-colonial culture and includes such acclaimed works as *Omeros*, *In a Green Night* and *25 Poems*. He founded the Trinidad Theater Workshop in 1959, which produced many of his early plays, and the Boston Playwrights' Theatre at Boston University in 1981, where he was a faculty member until 2007.

Although Cardenal does not have a Nobel Prize to his name, this Roman Catholic priest served as Nicaragua's Minister of Culture from 1979–1987 for the Sandinista National Liberation Front, which seized power in 1979 on a wave of socialist policies that included mass literacy. Cardenal is widely considered Central and South America's greatest living poet.

"Without readers, their books are meaningless, and without reader comments the authors can't learn more," said Andrejevic. "Of course, the other appeal is to communicate with each other as that is what good writers like to do."

Edward Bishop, a professor in the U of A's Department of English and Film Studies, will moderate the evening, which begins at 8 p.m. at the Citadel Theatre.

Play brings to life a violent and forgotten chapter in Canadian history

Geoff McMaster

Overshadowed by Louis Riel's North-West Rebellion, the Frog Lake Massacre of 1885 is now largely forgotten. It was a violent and revealing clash of cultures, erupting when a group of Plains Cree in what is now Alberta killed nine white men in response to mistreatment by the Canadian government. Chief Wandering Spirit and seven other Cree men were tried and put to death in the largest mass execution in Canadian history.

Vern Thiessen

Last year local writer Myrna Kostash published a book on the massacre called the *Frog Lake Reader*, a sweeping compendium of memoirs, journal entries, eye-witness accounts and interviews with historians in anticipation of the event's 125th anniversary. As it was perhaps meant to do, however, her research led to more questions than answers, crying out for a more imaginative treatment to fill in the gaps and silences that fall between the imperfect shards of memory.

The fictional path was not an easy one for Kostash. Although she flirted briefly with playwriting some 25 years ago, she had built a successful career in non-fiction writing. In fact, just this week, Kostash won the Matt Cohen Award for lifetime achievement, a $20,000 prize from the Writers' Trust of Canada.

"I'm committed to non-fiction," she says. "Even when it's creative non-fiction, I have a really hard time making things up. I'm not sure how people are going to feel about me taking liberties with characters in the historical record."

Seeing the dramatic potential in her material, however, she reached out to Vern Thiessen, the Governor General Award-winning playwright and graduate of the U of A's now defunct playwriting master's of fine arts who has produced a string of international hits with such historically based plays as *Einstein's Gift*, *Shakespeare's Will* and *Lenin's Embalmers*. Kostash studied with him online, then took his two-week course in Tuscany, Italy.

Myrna Kostash

"I saw Vern every day, and that really gave me a first draft," says Kostash, calling their working relationship a "real treat" born of mutual respect. "We don't pull any punches with each other, and he knows I can take it when he tells me, 'yuk' or 'don't even go there.' I told him I had real difficulty writing endless dialogue, with two characters who do nothing but sit around yacking all the time. He laughed and said, 'some of us call that theatre.'"

The result of that creative foray is *The Gallows is Also a Tree*, based on the relationship between the leader of the Frog Lake revolt, Wandering Spirit, and one of his captives, a 16-year-old girl. Set for a stage reading as part of Festival of Ideas, it is directed by Thiessen and performed by local actors David McNally, Ava Jane Markus, Liana Shannon and traditional drummer Rocky Morin of the Rocky Morin from Thundering Sprit Cultural Society.

Kostach distils the play's plot—one of Thiessen's exercises—in a single sentence: "In a turbulent year, 1885, Cree war chief Wandering Spirit and his 16-year-old, mixed-blood hostage Eliza Mclean, are thrown together in a vortex of violence, he to hang on the gallows, she to vanish from history."

But the play also explores "how we tell our stories, and who gets to tell 'History,' as opposed to history." Toward that end, Kostash has taken the liberty of creating a second, fictional version of Eliza several decades older, which produces a tension, says Kostash, between the "young innocent, naïve, romantic and hopeful girl, and the wiser, intellectual woman.

"But it's really about me and the dialogue I've had inside my head dealing with these topics."

The Gallows is Also a Tree premiers Nov. 16 at 3 p.m., Stanley A. Milner Library. The dup will also discuss the playwriting process at a special Festival of Ideas preview in Calgary Nov. 12.

Kids' fest challenges young minds to seek truths

Athena Photinopoulis

The Kids' Festival of Ideas, hosted by University of Alberta staff and students, is a special event for young people ages five to 13 to engage in hands-on interactive fun while exploring the humanities and sciences. A wide variety of free activities, experiments and games from the areas of science, engineering, math, physical education, philosophy, museum studies and music will run concurrently from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Enterprise Square atrium on Nov 20.

The kids' festival gently builds on this year's theme, "Truth and Lies: Trust Me," and encourages participation from young minds by providing them with opportunities to investigate, myth bust, and ask questions under the guidance of U of A outreach groups and volunteers.

Among the diverse groups hosting activities at this event, families can expect to find Philosophy for Children. This organization provides early opportunities for kids to develop and employ critical thought and encourages them to question the world around them in a safe and fun environment. "Philosophy at this stage is not about reading dusty books; it's about ensuring that there is a place for children to explore the world, and to make sure that when it doesn't make sense, they ask questions," said John Simpson, program administrator for the group.

Philosophy for Children plans to host a story-telling activity that uses popular children's tales as "sneaky prompts" to have kids think about the world in which they live through the venue of the story. Simpson explains that when kids talk about a story as a group, they can't help but see the parallel to their own world, and this enables them to challenge the kind of group thinking and authority that is out there.

The U of A Museums will also be on hand, toting many fascinating treasures, including mysterious Asian textiles, intriguing palaeontology, anthropology specimens and wild and wonderful plant specimens from around the world. Each piece will be accompanied by one true story and one fictitious story, and kids will have a chance to set their detective and research skills to work to uncover the truth.

"Seeing an artifact or specimen close-up provides a different learning experience than seeing a picture in a book. It is the hands-on experience that really makes kids' eyes light up," said Ellen Cunningham, exhibitions and outreach manager for this group.

Festivalgoers will be privy to a noon-time performance from the 20-piece Middle Eastern and North African Music Ensemble, courtesy of the U of A's Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology. For tickets or more information about this or any Festival of Ideas events, please visit www.festivalogideas.ca.

Campus community continues to pay it forward

Angel Cousineau

When University of Alberta students fall on hard times, bursary assistance from University Bursaries and Emergency Funding is there to help pick them back up.

"This year has been exceptionally difficult financially," said a fourth-year U of A student who received a bursary from UBEF last year. "I cannot express enough how grateful I am to have received a bursary and be able to complete my final year of university."

As a single parent going to college, Sheri Thompson, an administrative assistant in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, remembers the financial struggles she experienced as a student. And having worked at the university for the past 11 years, she's knows first-hand that there are many students on campus who currently face similar difficulties.

"When I worked with students, there were a few who fell on tough times just before Christmas—that's how I learned about UBEF," says Thompson. "The bursaries they received really helped them." The benefits of bursaries also hit home when her daughter received bursaries as a post-secondary student. The bursaries Thompson's daughter received were integral to her ability to complete her studies.

In 2007, Thompson found herself at a point in her life where she too could help students in need. Wanting to "pay it forward," Thompson signed up to have a monthly donation supporting U of A bursaries taken directly off her pay cheque. "I hope that this helps give them hope and reminds them to not give up," says Thompson.

While students are expected to have finances in place before they begin their academic year, unexpected situations or circumstances can derail their financial plans, leading to a financial emergency or shortfall, says Rachel de Leon, bursary program co-ordinator with UBEF.

"Bursary assistance helps students meet their financial obligations in a timely manner, which allows students to fully focus on their academic studies instead of turning some or all of their focus to the unexpected financial issues they are facing while being a full-time student," says de Leon.

Student bursaries can be supported in two ways: by giving to the emergency bursary fund, which supports immediate or unexpected financial needs that jeopardize a student's ability to continue their education; or the U of A Bursary Fund, which assists in meeting the funding gap to ensure studies are not discontinued on account of financial disadvantages. Monthly payroll donations can be made online at www.giving.ualberta.ca or by calling 780-492-4948.

> "When I worked with students, there were a few who fell on tough times just before Christmas."
>
> Sheri Thompson

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Sheri Thompson

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3) *"In two months of treatment, Dr. He has helped alleviate pain from sciatica, disc bulges and inoperable spinal cysts." - Senior staff member at the U of A*

ADVISORY REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR VICE-PRESIDENT (RESEARCH):

Input from the Community

Dr. Lorne Babiuk, Vice-President (Research), has advised President Indira Samarasekera that he would like to stand for a second term of office. In consultation with the Chair of the Board of Governors, Mr. Brian Heidecker, President Samarasekera has asked that an Advisory Review Committee for Vice-President (Research) be struck.

UAPPOL policy provides that members of the university community have an opportunity to contribute to the review process. Individuals are welcome to express their views on the priorities of Vice-President (Research); including current issues, leadership, and the future direction of the Office of the Vice-President (Research). An anonymized summary of the feedback will be provided to Dr. Babiuk during the review process. President Samarasekera invites you to submit your comments and/or suggestions, in confidence, by **4:30 pm on December 10, 2010**, to:

President Indira Samarasekera
c/o Jackie Wright, Secretary to the Advisory Review Committee
3-1 University Hall
University of Alberta, T6G 2J9
phone: (780) 492-9592
email: jackie.wright@ualberta.ca
fax: (780) 492-9265

Responsibility for the administration of the review process is housed in the Office of the President. Please note that the membership of the Advisory Review Committee will be confirmed by December 23, 2010, and posted on the President's website at www.president.ualberta.ca.

Bright eyes and bear pins return to pediatrics

staff spotlight

Ken Mathewson

Vie Wynnyk's hand-crafted lapel pins might be the recognizable thing about her, but for those who know her, they're hardly the most memorable.

Make no mistake. Her ursine creations are certainly cute. Crafted out of shaggy pipe cleaners, and adorned in miniature medical attire, Wynnyk's creations are guaranteed to get a smile out of all but the most hard–hearted. However, if it's a smile you're after, it's obvious within a minute of meeting her that no ornaments are required. Wynnyk possesses a contagious fervour and an inspiring outlook on her recent return to the pediatric department at the University of Alberta Hospital.

> "You've got to be enthused about your work. You've got to be inspired by where you are and what you do."
>
> Vie Wynnyk

"You've got to be enthused about your work," said Wynnyk. "You've got to be inspired by where you are and what you do, and you've got to keep it interesting. Otherwise, you might as well go do something else."

That kind of enthusiasm might seem typical for a newcomer to the job. Wynnyk, however, has been working as a medical assistant at the U of A for more than 22 years. In 1994, after a three-year stint in pediatrics, she transferred to the gastro-intestinal department. Now, 16 years later, she is pleased to find herself back where she began.

"You find out quickly just how skilled you are when you make those moves," she said. "After being away for so long, things in pediatrics have changed dramatically. We still have patient contact, and obviously we still deal with the parents, but it's much more administrative. The way things are organized is quite different."

The tasks and duties of her position may have changed over the years, but Wynnyk shows no signs of altering her approach to the job. Utilizing her artistic talents within her administrative duties remains a passion for her, and one that she plans to continue pursuing.

"Wherever I'm working, I find myself incorporating my artwork. I'll spend my lunch hours designing new handouts and templates. My old boss is in gastro-intestinal—I used to decorate his medical slides. He's probably happy he can just get some regular ones done now," laughed Wynnyk.

"I actually started making bear pins in 1992, which started out as dough and pompoms and evolved into cats, and then included the addition of bear pins made out of three pipe cleaners, which I think was about 2006–2007. Those are the ones I changed and made into medical bears. I think I ended up making one for everyone in my department. I had nurses asking for them; I had doctors from the Grey Nuns placing orders. In that year alone, I must have made more than 400 of them. I actually had a gentleman ask me to start a business with him selling the pins into the U.S."

Wynnyk declined his offer, much to the delight of her coworkers. "I explained to him that I had a full-time job, and that I just wouldn't be able to produce them in that capacity," she said.

"Besides, I'm very happy doing what I'm doing."

Supplied

In her spare time, Vie Wynnyk creates lapel pins.

Preparing for NASA's November furlough

Folio Staff

Friday, Nov.12 is the second furlough day for NASA staff; it is a regularly scheduled day of work for AASUA staff. The university will be open and operating at reduced levels of service on that day.

University administration urges you to consider how your faculty or unit plans to communicate the service levels available to students and clients.

This is a non-teaching day for most faculties. Faculties with classes running should ensure they consider any logistics related to building access and security.

Augustana will not be observing the furlough day on Nov. 12, and will be open with full service. NASA staff at Augustana will observe their furlough day on Oct. 22 and will operate at reduced levels of service on that day.

The following central units will offer service levels as follows:

Open with full service

- University of Alberta Protective Services

Open with reduced services

- Academic Information & Communication Technologies
- Environmental Health & Safety
- Financial Services
- Human Resource Services
- Libraries
- Supply Management Services

Closed

- Help Desk – Academic Information & Communication Technologies
- Office of the Registrar

For additional information regarding service levels, please contact the appropriate faculty, department or service unit office.

Researchers call on feds to step into 'Northern mess'

Geoff McMaster

Canada's Arctic research community is concerned that the state of science in the North is in disarray. Researchers decry the lack of national polar policy, saying they are often poorly funded at a time when gathering climate-change data is more urgent than ever.

Last January John England, the University of Alberta's Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Northern Research Chair, wrote an opinion piece in *Nature* pointing out that "the capacity to support researchers in remote field sites has plummeted, making it difficult for Canadian researchers to continue crucial monitoring of the fast-changing Arctic environment, from receding glaciers to disappearing polar-bear habitat."

The lack of support, he goes on to say, "leaves many Canadian scientists feeling voiceless and chronically insecure about research support."

Biologist John Gamon, also of the U of A, agrees Canada is in desperate need of a coherent national policy on the North and argues that grassroots involvement should form a central part of that policy. He points to a small community in Alaska called Barrow, where people and science have "come together and interacted over many decades.

"Any scientist who wants to work there goes through an approval process that involves the local community," he says, adding that the community has also "set up an area on the edge of town for research that they help manage and protect for science . . . It's good for both."

Gamon has spent time researching the exchange of gases on the Alaskan tundra, trying to determine the region's future contribution to climate change. The central question is whether the tundra will operate as a carbon sink—capturing and storing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and thus helping to slow global warming—or whether it will emit carbon dioxide through respiration.

It's uncertain at this point which side of the equation will win out, he says, though the balance depends largely on surface moisture. When moisture declines, "it acts as a kind of 'switch' that can easily turn the system from a carbon sink to a carbon source in a warming climate."

Monitoring such conditions is a huge undertaking, and Gamon currently has a plan to set up a pan-Arctic network of optical monitoring stations to "provide a window to an Arctic in transition." But he's convinced a key part of making such a system work, apart from funding support, is the direct involvement of local communities in the research. It worked for Barrow, a community consisting largely of Inupiat people, during a whaling ban in the 1970s.

"At that time, 'scientific' estimates of whale populations disagreed wildly from native estimates, which put the populations of bowhead whales at much higher levels than estimates by the population biologists. The local community teamed up with scientists to improve the counts, which led to much improved estimates of whale numbers, and based on those more accurate estimates, whaling was resumed."

Because of this history, it is now easier for scientists to conduct research not only in Barrow, but beyond: "The barriers to research elsewhere in the Arctic have been reduced through this history of cooperation between visiting scientists and locals that goes back many decades."

Gamon offered his perspective Oct. 25 as part of the Polar Impact Conversations Series. For more information, visit www.ualberta.ca/polar.

Eighteen Bridges connects Canada's cultural landscape with differing voices

Michael Davies-Venn

It pays homage to Edmonton, it serves as an unusual space in the nation's cultural landscape and contributes towards creating a more mature society. And with the debut of *Eighteen Bridges*—Canada's latest literary national magazine—the publication fills a void and helps connect Canada's cultural landscape.

"The United States has the *New Yorker* and the United Kingdom has *Granta*," one of *Eighteen Bridges*' founding editors, Curtis Gillespie, says. "The very foundation of these magazines is long-form narrative journalism, where they use all the hallmarks of great narratives—the withholding of tension, characterization, mood setting—they use all these classic elements of fiction and align them with great reporting and facts. This is indeed a rare combination in Canada."

The magazine, published by the University of Alberta's Canadian Literature Centre in the Faculty of Arts, is borne of a need beyond simply putting Canada in league with other nations with similar publications, say its editors, adding many Canadian writers lost a space to publish after the nation's first magazine closed its doors four years ago.

"*Saturday Night* magazine was in a way Canada's *New Yorker*; I was contributing editor to that magazine until it stopped publishing about four years ago," said Gillespie. "And *Eighteen Bridges* is filling that gap."

"There are so many great writers in Canada who really do not have an outlet; they have nowhere to publish the kind of works they are passionate about and that they used to publish in *Saturday Night*. And so much of the published works now in magazines are market driven as opposed to being writer driven. We really want this to be a writer-driven magazine."

> "There are so many great writers in Canada who really do not have an outlet."
>
> Curtis Gillespie

Whereas the magazine fills a void left by an earlier publication, it takes its name from a faded historical fact about its birth city. Four years ago, when the idea of the magazine was conceived, Gillespie and co-editor, Lynn Coady, wanted a name for the publication that connects with the city without calling it *Edmonton* magazine.

"At the time, there were 18 bridges across the North Saskatchewan River," Gillespie said. "So we thought naming the magazine *Eighteen Bridges* was a nice little homage to the city of Edmonton without being too overt."

Since then, there have been more bridges built to connect communities in Edmonton and, much like how a bridge brings different places together, the diversity of the stories published in the first issue is matched only by the origins of their contributors. The current edition brought authors from across Canada, the U.K. and U.S., writing on a diverse collection of topics that range from the transformation of public spaces by street artists to questioning the arguments for genetic testing. But the diversity of its contributors and topics aside, *Eighteen Bridges*, Gillespie said, is a vitamin for Canada's cultural health.

"A mature society has many different venues and outlets for writing that is a little bit more immersive and contemplative; they take their time to unravel and don't feel rushed," he said. "The pieces in *Eighteen Bridges* tell stories that are not told in newspapers or driven by the news cycle. But they add depth and richness to the world. Take, for example, the 7,000-word piece on genetics; it is fun to read and informative."

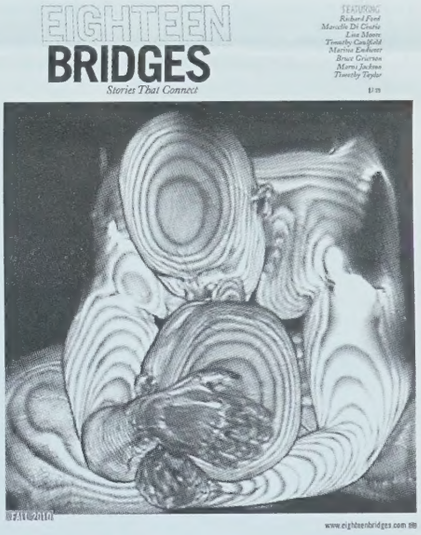
But it's not all literature in *Eighteen Bridges*. The pages of the magazine are interspersed with visual art work by some distinguished U of A art professors such as printmaker Liz Ingram and painting professor Daniela Schluter, among others. Marie Carriére, director of the Canadian Literature Centre, says that while the magazine fills a cultural void, it also advances the work of the centre.

"*Eighteen Bridges* allows us to pursue our mandate to bring different constituents together—the public, writers and researchers—that is what we try to do at the centre," she said. "There has been a lot of talk about the place of the arts in society and the usefulness of the arts. With the first issue of the magazine, which concentrates on art and science, Carriére says *Eighteen Bridges* is making a connection that taps into something Canadians are thinking and talking about, not just the place but the usefulness and need of arts in society.

The second issue of the magazine, which promises from its tagline to connect people through stories, is due in January. That edition will take a close look at the place of pop culture in society. And much like the first edition that Gillespie says has been well received, based on the number of subscribers. He says the next edition will continue to reward its readers.

"*Eighteen Bridges* takes an investment of time on the part of the reader but they get insight and richness of content and entertainment that is enjoyable. That's the essence of narrative journalism: the ability to read pieces they would learn something from and enjoy, all at the same time.

"That's pretty rare."



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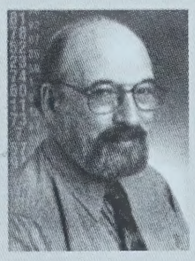

Dr. David Streiner

Director, Kunin-Lunenfeld Applied Research Unit, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care

Professor Emeritus, Clinical Immunology Biostatics and Psychiatry McMaster University

Presenting:

Dr. David L. Streiner

"Why RCT's rarely yield the truth"

When: November 16, 2010 3:00 - 4:30pm

Where: Room 2-115, CSB University of Alberta

Dr. Streiner is the author of 15 books on a wide range of topics including Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Measurement Techniques in Health Care.

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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Med/dent students collect clothes for underserved youth

Medical and dental students from the U of A will spend Nov.7 collecting gently used winter clothing for the Youth Emergency Shelter Society.

The students specifically need donations of: gloves, socks, shoes, winter boots and winter coats appropriate for the youths, aged 15–19. Jeans, dress clothes, bus tickets, juice boxes and Christmas gifts will also be accepted.

The acting executive director of YESS, Sue Keating, said initiatives like this are critical to the services they provide for youth and the generosity of the students has a big impact.

"The kids we serve rarely come to us with adequate clothing for the weather, and we don't have any room in our budget to purchase winter wear, so a donation like this means an awful lot to us. It's always particularly meaningful, as well, when this kind of generosity comes from student groups—youth helping youth makes such an impact."

Medical and dental students from the Class of 2013 have chosen YESS as their charity of choice this year and have already planned numerous events for the remainder of the school year: a cookie dough fundraiser, cooking and serving meals in the kitchens at YESS, launching a mentorship program and hosting a water park fun night for YESS youth.

Grenvil Gracias, a second-year medical student, said the Class of 2013 chose YESS because they wanted to empower the youth, help a local organization and do more than just donate money.

"We wanted to reach out in a more direct way," said Gracias, the medical students' representative on the Gold Humanism Honours Society committee, made up of medical and dental students committed to humanitarian efforts. "We wanted to make a difference locally, to be mentors, to give these youth hope. We wanted to set an example as students and to be good role models."

Danielle Tingley, the dental students' representative on the committee, agrees. "As medical and dental students, we feel that it is important to develop a humanitarian spirit early in our professional careers. We are very excited to be a part of this of this effort to give back to the community."

For more information on how to donate, email Gracias at ggracias@ualberta.ca.

Ian Morrison inducted into Agriculture Hall of Fame

Ian Morrison, former dean of the then-Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics, was inducted posthumously into the Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame earlier in October.

Morrison, who passed away in 2006, was a tireless steward of the land. His research accomplishments, as well as his administrative policies, were designed to help farmers reach profit goals and achieve goals leading to environmental sustainability.

His work on herbicide resistant weeds resulted in considerable savings in herbicide and application costs, and helped prevent an escalation of the weed resistance problem in Western Canada. As an educator, Morrison was considered a visionary and accomplished administrator, committed to training students to contribute to Alberta's agricultural communities.

Morrison's role in the advancement of Alberta and Western Canadian agriculture was immense and continues through those he mentored and influenced, in his various positions.

TLEF deadline approaching

The deadline for applications for the Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund Projects or Research is Feb. 1, 2011. The terms of reference and application form can be found at www.provost.ualberta.ca/AwardsandFunding/tlef.aspx.

An information session is scheduled for Nov. 24 at 8:30 a.m. in the council chamber of University Hall. Topics will include applications, budgeting requirements, and the adjudication process.

When submitting applications, it is requested that deans provide a numerical ranking of how each project or research application aligns with the Faculty Academic Plan in relation to other applications submitted from the same faculty. In addition, the principal applicant requires a written appraisal from the appropriate chair, in departmentalized faculties, or the dean. Chairs or deans are asked to refer to the TLEF terms of reference for content to include in this letter.

Faculties may institute their own internal deadline to ensure there is enough time necessary to rank the applications. Please consult with your faculty office in reference to deadlines.

Applications may be sent by the principal applicant or by the relevant Office of the Dean to the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), 2-10 University Hall. Please refer to the handbook regarding submission requirements. If further assistance is required, please e-mail tlef@uhall.ualberta.ca

Alberta EMBA places fourth in Canada

The prestigious *Financial Times of London* ranked the joint U of A/U of C Executive MBA (EMBA) program 48th globally, and fourth in Canada, in its international ranking of 100 EMBA programs released Oct. 25. The program outranked all Canadian schools in the "aims achieved" category, which measures the extent to which alumni fulfilled their goals or reasons for enrolling in an EMBA program. The joint Alberta/Haskayne Executive MBA program is offered in both Edmonton and Calgary with a stand-alone Edmonton cohort introduced in 2007.

Medicine TLEF to evaluate Discovery Learning

Ken Mathewson

When questioned about his teaching methods during his early career, Albert Einstein stated: "I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn."

Today, two physicians with the University of Alberta's Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry are preparing to put the effectiveness of that approach under the microscope.

Anna Oswald and Jennifer Walton recently received a grant from the Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund in order to evaluate the interaction patterns, and subsequent effectiveness, of a dynamic teaching style, known within the academy as "discovery learning," which challenges students to define their own learning objectives in order to analyze various case studies.

"This method of problem-based learning is employed all over the world," said Oswald. "It's basically a method of teaching where the students work through clinical cases, in a group format, by determining for themselves what they need to learn."

The classes, which consist of between 10 and 12 students, are guided by a facilitator, but the students are encouraged to rely as much as possible on one another, their ability to identify the information they're lacking and to develop their problem-solving skills by seeking out the answers they need.

"The goal is to create self-directed learners who are able to identify what they need to know, as well as how to go and get it," said Walton. "We are also trying to teach tutors how to lead these groups in a way that creates interaction between students, so we give them tools to help deflect the conversation away from them and to try to engage people who aren't terribly engaged."

Both doctors feel that this new method of teaching and learning will provide students with a greater capacity to recognize the areas they need improvement in and develop comfort with not having all the answers.

"It's important to learn how to deal with the ambiguity and the uncertainty that comes along with being a physician," said Walton. "You need to be able to admit when you know things and when you don't. That's a skill that we're hoping to improve—student's tolerance with that ambiguity, their ability to recognize it within themselves and to amend it when it's appropriate."

Ken Mathewson

(R-L) Anna Oswald and Jennifer Walton recently began collecting data on the interaction patterns of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry's discovery learning program.

classified ads

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9929 SASKATCHEWAN DRIVE. Large executive living with the best view in Edmonton. Bdrms: 2, baths: 2, area: 2,351 sq. ft., includes utilities, for $3,200/month. Commanding view of the river valley and City Centre! Executive living at its best! Many high quality upgrades. 2,351 sq. ft. of luxurious living space. Large windows bring the beauty of the river valley inside. Two spacious bdrms with stunning river views! Some hardwood floors, carpet. Finest facilities include indoor pool, party & games, exercise rooms. Close to downtown, Old Strathcona and university. A perfect choice for home owners who need lots of space but want to try out condominium living before they purchase. Parking also included. Call Janet today to see this prestigious condo. 780-441-6441 Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate

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LOCATION, LOCATION, BRANDER GARDENS IN RIVERBEND S.W. Bdrms: 2, baths: 1, area: 882 sq. ft., rent: $1,500/month. Buy for $230,000 or one year lease for $1,500/month. Great sought after location. Brander Gardens in Riverbend. Fresh, bright updated condo. Stylish new counter tops in kitchen. Double sinks added in bath. Carpets and some lino. Looks and shows beautifully. Nice small yard space. Energized parking stall. Call Janet Fraser at 780-441-6441 or email jennfra@interbaun.com. Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate.

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SOUTHWEST RIVERBEND, 2 STOREY RENTAL. Executive 2,700 sq. ft. home. Fully furnished. 3 bdrms plus den, 3.5 baths, fully finished basement, sauna. 6 month lease. Available immediately. $1,900/month plus utilities. Phone 780-249-9119. Email douggie999@hotmail.com. See photos on rentedmonton.com.

LENDRUM. 1,450 sq. ft., 3 bdrm bungalow. Finished basement, sunroom with wood stove, heated detached garage, landscaped yard. 2 blocks from U of A farm, Southgate. Directly across 2 schools, playgrounds. Appliances included. Phone 780-221-6023.

MILLWOODS, MILLBOURNE GREENS. Fully furnished town house condominium near the Whitemud. 3 bdrms, 2 storey sabbatical home. Enclosed automatic garage. Sidewalks cleaned by condo association. January 1 – July 1, 2011. $1,700/month not including utilities. Call Linda Kreitzer at 780-443-1298 or email at lmkreitz@ucalgary.ca

PARKALLEN. 3 plus 1 bdrm house. Well kept, newly painted. $1,500/month, $1,500 D.D. on one year lease. 780-244-1300.

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RIVERBEND, SOUTHWEST CONDO. Good-sized, well-lit comfortable bdrm with private bathroom available downstairs for $500/month. Close to a bus stop (#34). Two buses to the university would take approximately ½ hour, and 40 mins or less to downtown. Kitchen and laundry facilities available. Mature student or grad student. Two cats in the house. If interested, I would pay a tenant for doing housework. Please call Jean at 780-434-8801.

MCQUEEN AREA BUNGALOW. 4 bdrm, 1½ baths, detached garage. Negotiable rent. Immediate Possession. sholden56@hotmail.com.

FABULOUS MILLCREEK HOUSE FOR RENT. 985 sq. ft., 2 bdrms. Minutes from U of A, downtown. Renovated kitchen and bathroom, hardwood and marble floors. Pet and child friendly! New deck, fence, patio, windows and furnace. Includes use of BBQ, laundry, garage. Loads of storage. $1,400+½ utilities. Contact sylvia.rigakis@gmail.com.

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LONG BEACH CALIFORNIA. Oceanfront. Sabbatical vacation. 1 bdrm condo. $1,750/month. 780-435-1032.

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NOTICES

SHOW YOUR CHRISTMAS SPIRIT AND RECEIVE $5. ADARA HAIR AND BODY STUDIO has teamed up with the Edmonton Food Bank and Santa's Anonymous to help fellow Edmontonians this Christmas season. Drop off an unwrapped gift from Nov 1 to Dec 31, and receive a $5 coupon for services at Adara Hair and Body Studio. *Coupon to be used on services between Jan. 1 – Feb 28, 2011. ADARA HAIR AND BODY STUDIO, 9601–82 Ave., Edmonton. Also visit: adairhair.com, santasanonymous.ca, edmontonsfoodbank.com.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Nov. 9

Mini Medical School. Running every Tuesday for eight weeks, the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry is presenting this lecture series on topics from dentistry and surgery to nutrition and acupuncture. 7–9 p.m. Bernard Snell Hall. Go to www.cpl.ualberta for more information.

Until Nov. 20

Polar Impact is an exhibition celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Circumpolar Institute. It looks at the changes in the polar and sub-polar regions of the world and it highlights aspects of some of the research carried out by University of Alberta faculty in these unique and sensitive environments. The exhibit is open Thursdays 12–8 p.m., and Friday and Saturday 12–5 p.m. Gallery A in the TELUS Centre (87 Ave. and 111 St.). Admission is free Gallery A TELUS Centre.

Until Nov. 30

United Way Coats for Kids Alumni Affairs Collection. If you have a gently used coat that you would like to donate, contact Alumni Affairs at 492-7726. Any size, any style are needed.

Until Jan. 14, 2011

The John H. Meier, Jr. Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction Collection. This exhibition presents examples of first editions of all the titles that have won Canada's prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction from its inception to the present. Noon–4:30 p.m. Rutherford Library.

Nov. 5

Office of the Registrar Pie in the Face Day. Donate $2 to have a pie put in the face of a fellow colleague. That colleague has four choices: Pay $2 to have it sent back to the person who sent it to them, pay $5 to send it to someone new. Pay $10 to get out of the game all together. All proceeds to the campus United Way Campaign. Administration. www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/unitedway.

Nov. 6

Golden Bears and Panda's Basketball. Vs UBC Thunderbirds, 6 p.m. Main Gym. For full schedule of A of A Athletics, go to www.bears.ualberta.ca.

Nov. 8 & 9

Gently Used Clothing and Accessories Sale. Good quality, clean clothing for sale in support of the United Way from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Main Floor, Education South Education Centre, North & South

Nov. 8

It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle: Forcing DNA molecules to move through a nanopore. Gary W. Slater, of the Department of Physics at the University of Ottawa, presents. 10–11 a.m., 2 016 Natural Resources Engineering Facility.

CIUS Seminar Series. "Declassifying of the documents of the Security Service of Ukraine." Presented in Ukrainian by Volodymyr Viatrovych, director of the Centre for Research on the [Ukrainian National]Liberation Movement, Lviv, Ukraine. 3 p.m. 2-06 Pembina Hall.

Nov. 8–12

50ième anniversaire du Canadian Circumpolar Institute. As part of the CCI 50th anniversary an exhibit will be presented at Campus Saint-Jean from Nov. 8–12. This exhibit will show, among others, the work of Captain J.E. Bernier, the francophone explorer who helped define the Canadian borders in the Arctic. On Nov. 10, presentations by Marianne Douglas, Michelle Daveluy and Gilles Cadrin will take place in the Grand Salon. 1:15 p.m.

Nov. 9

"On Film, Theory & 'Film as Philosophy': Or, Philosophy Goes 'Pop.'" Todd Dufresne, director of the Advanced Institute for Globalization & Culture and Research Chair of Social and Cultural Theory at Lakehead University, will be on hand for this talk. 3:30–5 p.m. HC L-3 Humanities Centre.

Targeting Metabolism: A New Approach for Treating Cancer and Cardiovascular Disease. Join Evangelos Michelakis, MD, professor and vice-chair of research in the Department of Medicine, as he discusses early results of Dichloroacetate research. RSVP to calgary@ualberta.ca or 403-718-6375 4:30–6:30 p.m. http://www.calgary.ualberta.ca.

Linda Duncan On Federal Energy Policies & Water-Energy Nexus. Duncan, former member of the recently disbanded Standing Committee on Environmental and Sustainable Development, which recently held a two-year consultation process to review the impact of oilsands development on water resources. Duncan will release her own summary of findings and recommendations based on her experience on the committee. 5:30 p.m. 2-009 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC).

Nov. 10

2010 Foote Lecture in International Business. Playing it Right in Greater China: Navigating Asia's New Business Landscape. What are the implications of the recent and dramatically altered business and economic working conditions for both domestic and foreign players in greater China? Come hear U of A alumna Katherine Tsang take up this question at the 2010 Foote Lecture in International Business. 4–5 p.m. TL-12 Tory Lecture Theatres.

Nov. 13

Think Healthy, Be Well: Managing Diabetes Today Symposium. Geared towards those with diabetes, their families, friends, colleagues and others interested in learning more about the disease. Featured opening address and two keynote speakers. Select from 12 sessions, each led by a respected researcher/practitioner. Complimentary lunch included. "Meet the Presenter" coffee breaks and an intimate tradeshow. 8–3 p.m. http://www.afdr.ab.ca/diabetes-symposium.

Nov. 15

U of A GIS Day 2010. All U of A students, staff and faculty are invited to U of A's free event to explore and share education and research in Geographic Information Systems. Registration is required at www.ualberta.ca/~gis. 2:30–5 p.m., M145 Biological Sciences.

Celebration of Service. The 2010 Celebration of Service will recognize all U of A faculty and staff members who have 45 (1965), 40 (1970), 35 (1975), 30 (1980) and 25 (1985) years of service. 3:10–6 p.m., Myer Horowitz Theatre.

Nov. 16

Commercial Combined Heat & Power. The U of A has a combined heat and power system, why doesn't the rest of Alberta use this technology? Dan Cloutier, president of Power EcoSystems, will discuss how his company installs economically viable and energy efficient combined heat and power systems. 5:30 p.m. 2-009 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC).

Nov. 17

Chillin for Charity. Come out and be part of the 5th Annual JDC West Chillin for Charity. The water will be cool but it is all for a good cause. All proceeds raised will be donated to the campus United Way Campaign. 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Quad. www.jdcwest.com.

Nov. 17 & 18

Fall Convocation. Fall Convocation ceremony for the faculties of arts; engineering; agricultural, life and environmental sciences; business; nursing; native studies; Campus Saint-Jean and Augustana Campus. Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium.

Honorary degree recipients

Nov. 17
3 p.m., Donald Ethell, former lieutenant governor of Alberta

Nov. 18
10 a.m., Yvonne Shi-Wan Chiu, U of A alum and champion of immigrant and refugee rights
3 p.m., Kim Campbell, former prime minister of Canada

Nov. 19

Eric Geddes Breakfast Lecture. The Alberta School of Business and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta invite you to attend the Eric Geddes Breakfast Lecture featuring Simon Farbrother, Edmonton's city manager. Topic: "Transforming Edmonton: One Organization's Experience of Taking on the Challenge." 7–8:30 a.m.

Pain revisited: merging science & practice. This symposium will include presentations from the Canadian Pain Society Annual Conference 2010. The symposium will revisit pain management from a wide range of perspectives; children with pain and their parents, persons with whiplash injury, adults living with chronic enduring pain and older adults with dementia. This symposium is part of National Pain Awareness Week. Noon–5 p.m. 2-39 Corbett Hall.

"Incentives in the Family Firm." Animal family life has been seen as a cauldron of conflict, characterized by parent-offspring competition. In this lecture, distinguished Stanford biologist Joan Roughgarden presents a harmonious interpretation of family life, based on cooperative game theory from the economics of industrial organization. 327 Earth Sciences.

China Institute Movie Screening: "Kung Fu Hustle." Kung Fu Hustle, directed by and starring Stephen Chow, is a delightful blend of comedy and martial arts, aided by computer-generated effects alternately gorgeous and ridiculous. It is also the top-grossing Hong Kong film of all time. Join us for a screening of this madcap miscellany, to be introduced by Daniel Fried, of the Department of East Asian Studies. 7:30 p.m. TELUS Centre.

Gateway Centennial Pub Night @ Dewey's. The Gateway is celebrating 100 years! Please join current Gateway staff and other Gateway alumni at a fun night out at Dewey's on campus for a private event. 7:30 p.m.

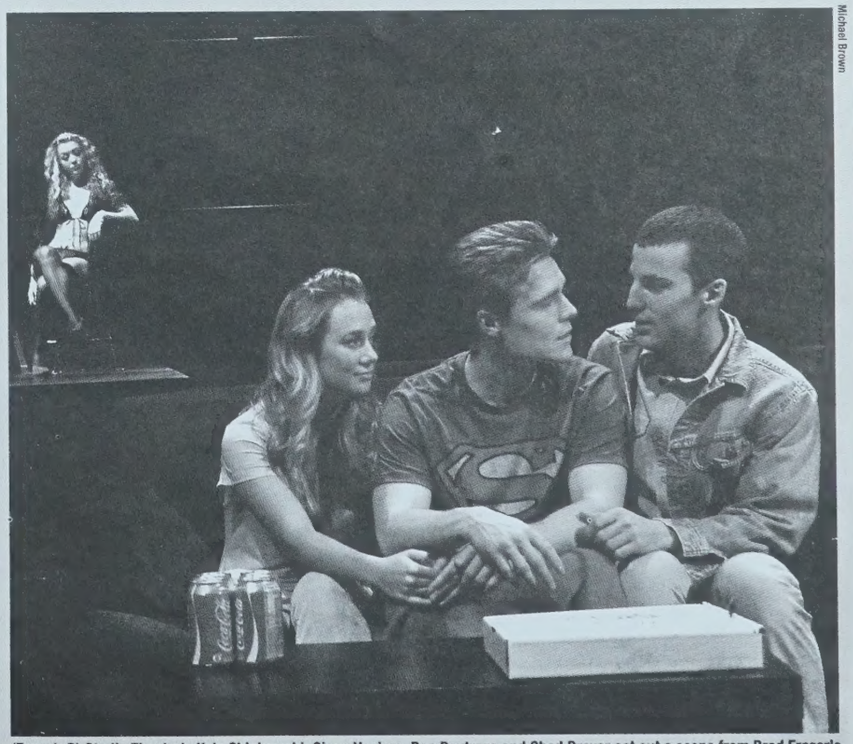
Nov. 20

Gateway Centenary Celebration Dinner. The Gateway is 100 years old and is celebrating this momentous occasion with a Centennial Gala Dinner and an evening program featuring a keynote address from the former Alberta premier Peter Lougheed. 5 p.m., Aberhart Centre. www.ualberta.ca/alumni/gateway.

Nov. 21

World Music Sampler. 2 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

Lady in waiting



Michael Brown

(From L-R) Studio Theatre's Kyla Shinkewski, Giana Vacirca, Ben Dextraze and Chad Drever act out a scene from Brad Fraser's brutally dark and razor-sharp "Love and Human Remains," running Nov. 4–13 at the Timms Centre for the Arts. Tickets are on sale now at TIX on the Square and online at www.tixonthesquare.ca , as well as in person at the Timms box office.

laurels

Mark Fenton, a long-time adjunct professor in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and sessional instructor with the Faculty of Extension, has received the prestigious Provincial Geologists Medal to recognize his major contributions in geoscience. This is the first time this award has been given to an Alberta geologist.

Cyril Kay, professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Finlay McAlister, professor in the Department of Medicine, and Glen Baker, professor in the Department of Psychiatry, have all been elected as a fellows of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

Patricia Paradis, executive director for the Centre of Constitutional Studies, was honoured by the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund with a Lifetime Recognition Award. Since its inception in 1985, LEAF, a national charitable organization that works toward ensuring the law guarantees substantive equality for all women in Canada, has intervened in more than 150 cases on equality rights.

Cheryl Sadowski, professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, has been awarded the 2010 Practitioner Award from the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists Alberta Branch.

A 'THRILLER' OF A UNITED WAY FUNDRAISER

Photos by Michael Brown

The spirit of Michael Jackson was alive and well in the Main Gym of Van Vliet Centre on Oct. 29 as more than 100 participants shuffled, stomped and strutted their way through a lunch-hour workout to the popular Michael Jackson tune "Thriller." A team of dancers led the zombie-wannabes through the choreographed moves from Jackson's 1983 hit video. The event was organized as a fund-raiser for the campus' United Way campaign.

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 4
Development gets new face
O'Neil Outar named chief development officer

Page 9
Teaching and Learning
Aquatic toxicologist promotes the power of critical thinking

Page 10
Giving the U of A some soul
Clothing and textile grad pursues career as a soul singer

5
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Volume 48 Issue 6 | November 19, 2010 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Medical school gets high marks from accreditation authorities

Julia Necheff

The accrediting bodies that oversee the quality of medical schools in Canada and the United States have given the University of Alberta med school a solid "A."

The Committee on the Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools and the Liaison Committee on Medical Education have voted to continue full accreditation of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry's MD degree program. The committee, which is based in the United States, grants accreditation to both American and Canadian medical schools.

"This decision is a strong endorsement of the excellent quality of our MD program, and confirms we are one of the finest medical schools in Canada," said Philip Baker, dean of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry.

"I'm absolutely delighted that our program has achieved such a positive result," Baker said. "This comes down to a lot of hard work from many individuals within the faculty and our partner organizations, particularly Alberta Health Services.

"I want to acknowledge the leadership of Fraser Brenneis (vice-dean of education) and Kent Stobart (associate dean of undergraduate medical education) and their respective teams who worked tirelessly to ensure this excellent outcome," the dean added.

The two accreditation committees work in tandem to conduct regular, in-depth reviews of the Canadian schools. Their latest decision on the U of A medical school follows an intensive examination of the MD program that took place last spring. A "survey team" of senior medical school officials from other universities were appointed by CACMS and LCME to visit the faculty in May.

Continued on page 2

Cooperative subject matter

Supplied

Scott Persons takes measurements of tail bones from fossil of a gorgosaurus, a close relative of T. rex. Persons has found that the T. rex probably moved a lot quicker than previously thought. Story on Page 2.

U of A researchers mine ASTech gold

Michael Brown

Robert Burrell, chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Alberta, was one of six University of Alberta researchers who won Alberta Science and Technology Leadership in Alberta Foundation awards at a ceremony at the Shaw Conference Centre Nov. 12.

Burrell, the inventor of Acticoat, a silver-based wound dressing used the world over to speed healing, won in the category of Outstanding Leadership in Alberta Technology. Burrell's invention has saved countless lives, including some victims of the 2002 Bali terrorist bombing who arrived at Australian emergency rooms while Burrell happened to be on the continent lecturing on the virtues of Acticoat.

"It was almost overwhelming to see the dressing being used under such tragic conditions, but there was a tremendous satisfaction in seeing the results of its use," said Burrell. "Many people can alter the bottom line for a company, but very few people can alter the outcomes of people's lives. I am lucky to be one of the few."

Other winners of ASTech Awards included John Vederas, professor in the Department of Chemistry, who won in the category of Outstanding Leadership in Alberta Science. Vederas is an internationally recognized leader in the fields of bio-organic and medicinal chemistry. Applications developed from his research range from cholesterol-lowering drugs and natural food preservatives to medicines for combating viral infections and preventing premature births. His work has helped to improve countless lives in Alberta and around the world.

John Acorn, professor in the Department of Renewable Resources and the School of Energy and the Environment, was named for his Excellence in Science and Technology Public Awareness. Affectionately named "The Nature Nut," Acorn has inspired hundreds of thousands of curious minds to explore science over a 30-year career as educator, journalist, author, television host, photographer, naturalist and scientist. He created and hosted Acorn the Nature Nut, a popular television series and he is a prolific author of books about nature, paleontology and bird- and insect-specific field guides.

Robert Burrell

Sirish Shah, a professor in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, together with his associate Phanindra Jampana, won in the category for Innovation in Oil Sands Research sponsored by Syncrude Canada Ltd. This collaborative research project between Suncor Energy, the University of Alberta, Matrikon and iCORE is concerned with the development of a novel, non-intrusive and reliable sensor for interface detection in separation cells. The two developed an image sensor to help reduce the environmental impacts, while improving bitumen recovery and revenues by cutting the amount of bitumen inadvertently flowing into tailings ponds by 50 per cent.

Lloyd Dosdall, professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science, received the Innovation in Agricultural Science award sponsored by Dow AgroSciences Canada Inc.

> **"Many people can alter the bottom line for a company, but very few people can alter the outcomes of people's lives. I am lucky to be one of the few."**
>
> Robert Burrell

Continued on page 3

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folio

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Kule Institute for Advanced Study marks the arts' return to prominence

Michael Davies-Venn

Three years ago, University of Alberta Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Carl Amrhein sent his colleagues in the Faculty of Arts on a reflective journey. After a critical year-long dialogue centred on where the arts fit in the 21st century, they emerged with a bold vision.

"Coming out of that process, we recommended that the university create a large-scale, intellectually animated research institute within the arts faculty," said George Pavlich, associate vice-president (research). "Who could ever have imagined that scarcely two years after presenting the recommendation to the Arts Faculty Council, we would be celebrating the opening of such an institute, the Kule Institute for Advanced Study. The outcome is an excellent example of what can be done when people are committed to transforming a vision into reality."

Pavlich was speaking at the Nov. 4 launch of the newly minted Kule Institute, which was made possible by a $4-million endowment by long-time university friends and visionaries, Peter and Doris Kule.

"The Faculty of Arts has the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies and the Prince Takamado Research Institute, among others," said Amrhein. "It now has a new, very large jewel in the crown of interdisciplinary centres in the faculty, the Kule Institute for Advanced Study. And for that I would like to thank Peter and Doris for making our crown shine that little bit better, that little bit brighter."

The Kule's donation paved the way for a collaborative funding agreement between the Kules and the U of A. It will see the establishment of an endowment of $12 million for the purpose of advancing the high humanitarian ideals of the founding donors and the U of A's commitment to leading research and creative activity, said the institute's founding director, Jerry Varsava, and that it is an example of the growing and powerful trend of supporting socially responsive and socially engaged research, he says, rejecting the view that such is sometimes called "blue-sky research."

"Tying highly imaginative intellectual inquiry to practical social concerns is doing nothing more than acknowledging the link between the blue sky and the highly populated and sometimes troubled world that it encircles," he said.

"The institute will be a champion of thematically based research, promoting innovation and impact with emphasis on understanding better the human condition and indeed ameliorating that condition where it finds itself challenged or beleaguered and in a need of freshening or renovation or change."

The Kule Institute for Advanced Study is the latest in a long list of initiatives at the U of A supported by the Kules, whose generosity has made possible, among other things, the Kule Centre for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore, the Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography and the Kule Ukrainian Canadian Studies Centre.

Peter Kule was born in Ukraine, Doris born to Ukrainian immigrants. He, it is said, was doing calculus when his classmates were still struggling with algebra, which led to his becoming an accountant. She became a teacher after training at the U of A. Both are retired, but Varsava says the Kules continue to work tirelessly for their causes.

"Peter and Doris have both adopted new careers as philanthropists, as benefactors, as doers of public good and as community builders, whose generosity has supported all manner of research and contributed to the preservation of cultural memory and of cultural pride in the Ukrainian Canadian Community," he said.

Their approach is captured in the new institute's motto: "Advancing humanity, lifting the human spirit." The motto says a lot of what the university expects from the Kule institute, said Faculty of Arts Dean Lesley Cormack.

"We are at a moment in our history where the vast potential of the liberal arts, especially in interdisciplinary ways, can really return to the great problems that are affecting our societies today," said Cormack. "The Kule Institute will not just be another place where research can be done. This will be a place where important, transformative, society-changing research will be done, where we truly will be advancing humanity and lifting the human spirit."

T. rex's tail the key to its hunting prowess

Brian Murphy

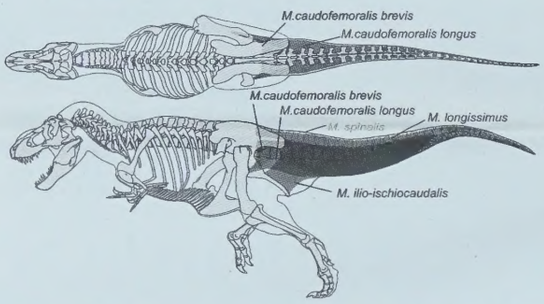
Tyrannosaurus rex, the iconic meat-eating dinosaur, is known for its unusual body shape: a big heavy head, short arms and a long thick tail. Many dinosaur experts have believed the purpose of the dinosaur's tail was to act like the heavy end of a teeter-totter, keeping the animal from falling forward on its face.

Now, a University of Alberta researcher has given the dinosaur a makeover and says it's a mistake to believe T. rex's tail was just "junk in the trunk."

U of A graduate student Scott Persons has shown the raptor's tail actually housed powerful muscles, which could have made it one of the fastest moving hunters of its time.

"I compared the tails of modern-day reptiles like crocodiles and Komodo dragons to T. rex's tail," said Persons. He found all animals in his study had something in common: "The biggest muscles in the tail are attached to upper leg bones and they provide the power stroke, which allows for fast forward movement," he said.

But Persons found the skeletal structure of T. rex's tail gave it an advantage the others animals didn't have. The tails of both T. rex and modern animals are extensions of the vertebral column. Rib bones attached along the length of the vertebrae give the tail its strength and shape. Persons found that the rib bones attached to the tails of crocodiles and Komodo dragons actually limit the size of muscles along the animals' tails, but that the ribs in the tail of T. rex are located much higher on the tail.



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A drawing of the tail muscles Person believes enable T. rex to be among the fastest moving predators of its time.

"That leaves much more room along the lower end of the tail for the powerful caudofemoralis muscles to bulk-up and expand," said Persons, explaining that, without rib bones to limit the size of the caudofemoralis muscles, they became a robust power-plant enabling T. rex to run.

Persons' extensive measurements of T. rex bones and computer modeling show previous estimates of the muscle mass in the dinosaur's tail were underestimated by as much as 45 per cent.

"That led many earlier T. rex researchers to believe the animal lacked the necessary muscle mass for running," said Persons. That perceived lack of speed caused some scientists to doubt T. rex's hunting ability and cast Tyrannosaurus in the role of a scavenger, only able to feed on previously dead animals.

Persons' says the makeover on T. rex's athleticism (and rear end) shows the Cretaceous predator was one of the fastest hunters in its ecosystem.

An exact measure of T. rex's speed has always been tricky, says Persons. Typically researchers measure the distance between the placement of a dinosaur's feet in the few places where actual footprints of T. rex and other dinosaurs were left behind. But Person says those footprints were left in soft, wet ground, and it's not likely a dinosaur would have been moving at full speed on that kind of terrain.

"We're not sure of its actual maximum speed," said Persons. "But I'm confident T. rex was as fast as any Olympic-calibre sprinter and it could likely run down any other large dinosaur in its ecosystem."

Accreditation

continued from page 1

There are about 130 nationally accepted quality standards that medical schools in the U.S. and Canada must meet in order to achieve and maintain accreditation. These standards relate to the institutional setting, what is being taught and how well the curriculum is structured and managed, admissions policies, services for students, the learning environment, the faculty members, finances and the facilities.

The accrediting bodies say the U of A medical school is in full compliance with all standards but one. It is "in partial compliance" with the standard that relates to how well residents are prepared for teaching medical students. However, the accreditation committees noted that the school is already well on its way to achieving full compliance with this standard. Residents "are intensively aware of the educational objectives . . . (and) are prepared for their roles as teachers," they concluded. The survey team reported: "The students interviewed during the survey visit were uniformly enthusiastic about the involvement of and quality of the resident teaching."

All that remains to achieve full compliance with this standard is for the faculty to complete its central monitoring system of resident participation in teaching workshops.

"The very successful outcome of the May 2010 (accreditation) site visit is strong validation of the faculty's hard work over the last 24 months," Brenneis said, adding that the faculty will use the partial compliance question as impetus to improve. "Building on the previous work of a number of faculty members, Kent Stobart and his team will now move our MD program forward, embracing the latest in literature and curriculum innovation."

University's South Campus sector plan goes public Nov. 29

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta will hold a public information open house regarding its South Campus sectors plan on Nov. 29.

Back in 2001, the U of A went through the process of developing a long-range development plan as the first step to envisioning what the U of A will look like in 50 years.

Part of that plan was to divide the entire university campus into sectors, with each sector to undergo its own planning process. The open house will focus on sectors 12, 13 and 14, the sum of which accounts for the U of A's South Campus.

The U of A held a previous open house in November 2008. What makes this particular open house interesting is Edmonton's bid for Expo 2017, which, if successful, would mean extensive development of the South Campus.

Bart Becker, associate vice-president of facilities and operations, says the university has plans to create space for 15,000 students and 3,000–4,000 faculty and staff, with a concentration of development around the LRT, while keeping the campus sustainable, allowing for recreation and park space so the people in the surrounding area view South Campus as a destination.

"As we wrap up the sector plans for South Campus, the open house on Nov. 29 will provide opportunities for both the university community and the public at large to view information and share their responses to the proposed general development of the university's South Campus," said Becker. "We look forward to profiling these plans for the university's future and hearing from our students, faculty, staff and the public."

The South Campus sectors plan will be held at the Campus' Saville Sports Centre gymnasium (11520 – 65 Ave.).

Researcher examines methods to solve oilsands tailings challenge

Richard Cairney

When it comes to tackling tailings ponds in Alberta's oilsands, University of Alberta civil engineering professor G. Ward Wilson has a mental picture of what the ponds should one day look like: wilderness.

Getting there is a challenge that Wilson is eager to shoulder. Wilson is a geotechnical engineer whose research career has focused on mine waste management around the world for the past 25 years, is eager to shoulder.

"Every mine around the world has tailings," said Wilson. The most recent and catastrophic reminder of this is the Hungarian aluminum tailings disaster, in which an estimated one million cubic metres of caustic sludge spilled over an area of 40 square kilometres. In Alberta, the oilsands industry is tackling its own tailings issues.

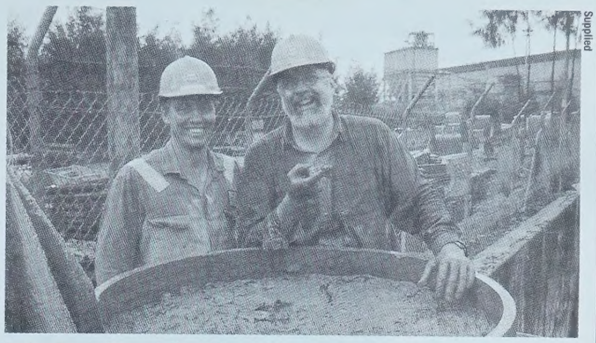
"Everyone in the mining business has similar challenges," he said. "But the oilsands industry wants—more than anybody—to move from wet tailings systems to dry landscapes."

The industry uses water to separate bitumen from sand—and one byproduct of this extraction process is wet tailings. The tailings and process water are contained in man-made ponds. For years, researchers have been working on ways to reduce or eliminate the use of water from the separation process.

Progress has been made in reducing the amount of fresh water used in the separation process by recycling tailings water, but researchers are looking for ways to virtually eliminate water use—and to figure out what to do with existing tailings ponds.

That's where Wilson comes in. He says the first step in recovering land the ponds now occupy is to de-water the tailings. One method being investigated is called "land farming" where mature fine tailings—basically the fine clays that settled on the bottom and sides of the tailings ponds—are poured in thin layers onto a flat surface and allowed to dry. Other methods being investigated include using centrifugal force to wring water from the tailings. Special flocculants are also added to the tailings to help fine clay particles bond to one another, separating them from the water.

Ultimately, Wilson's research will enable industry to develop stable land forms that encapsulate the de-watered tailings. The dried-out clays could be covered by the topsoil that was moved aside to mine the bitumen in the first place.



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Engineering professor G. Ward Wilson, right, at an advanced waste management research site in New Guinea.

"It will be a whole new earth structure—a whole new land form," said Wilson. "You want it to be treed, stable and resistant to erosion, so that you don't have bits of it slipping away. It also has to be physically, chemically and ecologically stable."

Wilson says the oilsands are a valuable resource that has brought prosperity to the province and the country. But as is the case with any resource industry, from forestry to mining, industry needs to clean up after itself.

"You can't scrape up square kilometres of land and not restore it," he said. "And frankly, we've already done things on this scale—in southern Saskatchewan, vast tracts of land were used for coal mining that have subsequently been turned back into farm land.

"I am very optimistic that we can solve the challenges associated with the de-watering of oilsands tailings, especially through research partnerships with the oil sands companies, government agencies and our consulting engineering firms here in the province."

Researchers funded to strengthen foundation for better health

Michael Brown

Two University of Alberta health researchers have been named as part of a $3 million federal government funding announcement aimed at finding solutions to some of today's most pressing physical-activity and childhood-obesity questions.

Donna Goodwin, professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, will receive $147,916 over three years from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to examine the experience of disabled persons making the transition from rehabilitation to community fitness programs, while Michael Stickland, professor in the Department of Medicine, will receive $351,474 over three years to investigate the physiological effect of exercise on patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Goodwin's CIHR proposal, entitled Transition to Community Fitness Programs for Persons with Disabilities Following Rehabilitation, outlined a research regiment that will take a close look at the intersection of the constructs of dignity and transition as people with physical disabilities leave hospital rehabilitation programs and return to their communities.

Goodwin says she specifically wants to look at the personal experiences of people with disabilities undergoing transition to community fitness programs, the perspective of fitness centre staff as they work to accommodate people with disabilities in their settings and the significance of disability peer mentors in sustained community fitness participation.

"The proposed studies will provide a unique contribution to our understanding of the relationship between dignity and the transition from rehabilitation to community fitness facilities for people with physical disabilities," said Goodwin, adding the outcome of her research will be of interest for everyone from patients to fitness professionals. "The outcome of the proposed studies will be increased health for persons with disabilities through an increased knowledge of the transition process and how the current gap between rehabilitation and participation in community based fitness programs can be bridged."

> "As the fourth leading cause of death of Canadians, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a significant burden."
>
> Michael Stickland

Stickland's CIHR funding will go towards a fuller examination of a leading cause of death among Canadians, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, a respiratory disorder largely caused by smoking, which is characterized by progressive, partially reversible airway obstruction, with significant systemic consequences.

"As the fourth leading cause of death of Canadians, [this disease] is a significant burden," said Stickland. "Not all smokers get it, but of those who do, they are two to three times more likely to die of heart disease than smokers who don't have lung disease. This indicates that it is something specific about the lung damage that is causing cardiovascular disease."

More critical to Stickland's proposal, entitled Carotid Chemoreception and Sympathetic Nervous Activity in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, is the exercise intolerance of COPD patients.

Stickland says a hallmark of COPD is an inability to do exercise at a level that is one third to one quarter of what the average person should be able to do.

"Working within the Division of Pulmonary Medicine, the Centre for Lung Health and the Alberta Cardiovascular and Stroke Research Centre within the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute, my team wants to find out what is contributing to the increased cardiovascular dysfunction in COPD patients, how cardiovascular dysfunction contributes to the patient's exercise intolerance and how exercise training through rehabilitation improves the cardiovascular consequences of COPD."

ASTech awards

continued from page 1

Peter Gill

Dosdall is an internationally recognized entomologist who has developed and released new canola germplasm that is available to agribusiness and farmers and proven to have resistance to infestation.

Finally, for the fourth year in a row, a student in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry has been named a "Leader of Tomorrow" by the ASTech Leadership Foundation.

Peter Gill, a joint MD/PhD student at the U of A, and a 2009 recipient of a Rhodes Scholarship to the University of Oxford, won the ASTech award in the category of Leaders of Tomorrow.

Gill's research is looking at ways for the western health-care systems to monitor quality of care for children. Currently standards are to look at vaccination rates and child mortality, an approach that Gill says doesn't work for Canada because most children get vaccinations and the mortality rate is very low.

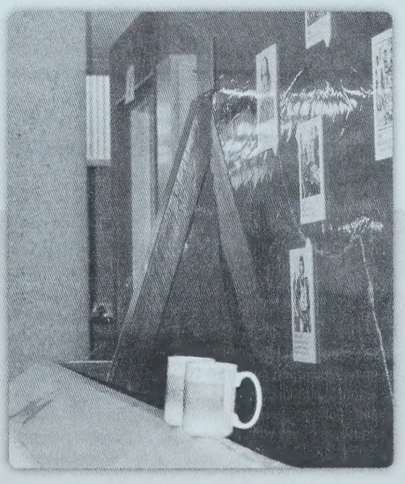
Other U of A researchers nominated for awards included Bernard Thebaud, professor in the Department of Physiology; David Wishart, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences; biological scientists Phillip Fedorak and Julia Foght; Pierre Boulanger, professor in the Department of Computing Science; Faculty of Engineering professor emeritus Daniel Smith; and Arturo Sanchez-Azofeifa, professor in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

The ASTech Leadership Foundation was created to celebrate and promote the achievements of Alberta's scientific and technological communities.

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Debbie Feisst, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Nov. 5 "Are You a Winner?" contest, after she correctly identified the object in the photo as the abstract figurative sculpture tilted "Disciples" by Patrick William Morin, a graduate from the U of A's fine arts program, located on the west side of St. Stephen's College. For identifying the photo in question, Feisst has won a coveted Butterdome butter dish.

Up for grabs this week is a pair of coffee mugs courtesy of the Animal Science 200 Principles of Animal Agriculture class, which puts on the Heifer In Your Tank production. The next showing of this wildly-funny-yet-informative class project is Nov. 23 at the Myer Horowitz Theatre starting at 7 p.m. To win, simply identify where on campus the mugs in the above photo are located. Email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Nov. 26, and you will be entered into the draw.



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New chief development officer swinging for the fence

Michael Brown

In 1957, two storied New York baseball teams, the New York Giants and the Brooklyn Dodgers, pulled up stakes and headed west in search of the sunny shores of California.

Born in Guyana but having grown up in Brooklyn decades after the Dodgers left for Los Angles, O'Neil Outar, University of Alberta's new chief development officer, spent his undergraduate history thesis at Tufts University trying to measure the impact the move had on his hometown.

What he found was a study in the human condition, a measure for progress and growth, and a career using big ideas to create change.

"The emergence of those teams in California changed for those cities how they viewed themselves, and for the rest of the country, how they were viewed," said Outar. Having grown up in Brooklyn, Outar says one can argue that it has never been the same since its cherished baseball team left.

"In many ways, when you look at the 2017 Expo bid, it is very interesting what a seminal event like this would do to put Edmonton on the map," said Outar. "It would provide the university with the kind of identity and visibility you couldn't buy with all the tourism marketing in the world."

The idea of the expo coming to Edmonton is the kind of big thinking that Outar says he has been encouraged by since he was brought aboard as the U of A's chief development officer in August to lead the fundraising enterprise and jointly manage the Office of Alumni Affairs. "Big ideas beget big gifts," he says.

And big ideas and big gifts are nothing new to Outar.

Prior to joining the university, Outar served in a variety of senior leadership roles at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and worked closely with its president and senior leaders to develop their messaging, volunteer leadership and fundraising model.

O'Neil Outar

In his most recent role as senior director of MIT's global initiatives, he led the launch of institute-wide activities in China and India, and increased private philanthropic support from outside the United States by more than six-fold. As senior director of institutional initiatives, he managed the fundraising of more than US$1.25 billion in support of energy and the environment, integrative sciences and student life and learning. During the US$2.2 billion Campaign for MIT, Outar served as a senior major gifts officer, and managed the fundraising of more than US$250 million.

Outar's position as chief development officer is not a new role at the university. What has changed, however, is the administration's perspective on the importance of private philanthropic support.

The portfolio now reports directly to the president because of its growing long-term importance, says Outar. "If you think of how quickly and dynamically the university has grown in the last decade, the ambitions of the university have outstripped the funding that will come from government."

Outar says that, over the last number of years, anywhere from 60 to 80 per cent of the U of A's philanthropic funding has come from industry or foundations. He explains he wants to preserve these dollar values and continue to grow them where he can, but says the reality of fundraising is that individual wealth is a much larger portion of the charitable sector, with approximately 85 percent of the $21B charitable sector in Canada coming from individual philanthropy. "When I got to MIT, two-thirds of gifts in the prior campaign came from foundations and industry, with concerted investments during the recent campaign more than two-thirds came from individuals."

Outar says his first step is to elevate and institutionalize the Office of Development & Alumni Affairs portfolio. The second is to develop a strategy and structure to put the University on a path toward building an endowment and annual fund-raising that is comparable to the U of A's aspirant peers. He says his immediate fundraising targets are to raise private philanthropic support from the $108 million raised last year to at least $150 million per year over the next four-and-a-half years. After that, Outar says anything is possible.

"Our peer universities are thinking of fundraising campaigns in the billions," said Outar. "We aspire to compete at that level and we can. In addition, the World Wide Web has created a platform for the University to compete in the global idea market place. There are people who are not alumni but are watching the University of Alberta and looking for opportunities to support the University as it takes a leadership role in addressing some of the intractable problems that the world now faces."

Outar says one of his first challenges is to reposition the organization to take advantage of the opportunities in engaging individuals, especially successful alumni.

This is not to say big gifts and storied fundraising campaigns are strictly the domain of centuries-old American universities. Outar says that, over the last eight months, the U of A has received five gifts of $10 million, one of almost the same amount, and—of the six gifts—five of those were from individuals. "The U of A has moved comfortably into the eight-figure gift range in the last year," he said

"That is not happening at any other university in the world," said Outar. "To get that consistent drumbeat in eight months is remarkable."

Outar credits this support with the U of A's determination to make good on its ambition of becoming a top 20 public research institutions by 2020.

"President Samarasekera said to me in an early conversation that the U of A had one of the best leadership teams in Canada, if not the entire world," said Outar. "Having spent a great deal of time in some of the leading universities in the world, it is clear to me that the leadership acumen on campus is very high.

"For fundraising, where part of the challenge is creating confidence by the donor in the institution, having that type of leadership and talent together is a remarkable accomplishment."

Leading a university a matter of balance

University 101

Michael Brown

Running a bottom-up organization, putting into action the will of the faculties while still managing to lead effectively, is a balancing act.

A team of seven senior administrators from a range of backgrounds is directly responsible for developing procedures, regulations and guidelines, and overseeing all the university's operations.

At the top of the U of A's senior administration sits the president and vice-chancellor. Appointed by the board of governors, the president is the key liaison to both the General Faculties Council and the board of governors and sits as university's chief executive officer. The president is responsible for range of roles that are set out in Alberta's Post-Secondary Learning Act.

The president oversees over the operational and fiscal management of the university, delegating internal operation to the provost and vice-president (academic). To that end the president builds a senior executive team committed to fulfilling the vision, goals and priorities necessary to ensuring long-term sustainability.

At the core of any leadership is the creation of a vision that others don't just follow but believe in. The U of A president creates and stages a vision that will build and advance the U of A as an exceptional institution.

"[The university] should always be evolving in response to the needs of students, the academy and the public we serve," says President Indira Samarasekera. "It is the president's job to lead the development and continual evolution of the vision and mission of the university and ensure that both internal and external stakeholders are unified and guided by the principles and values expressed by them."

U of A presidents are also responsible for promoting, preserving and representing the achievements of the university in order to gain support for its many endeavours. They must ensure the overall effectiveness of the university through contact with and participation in various orders of government and with councils and organizations involved in higher education at the provincial, national and international levels. A president must champion the university's fundraising initiatives and campaigns to ensure the long-term financial viability of the institution.

Samarasekera breaks her job down into three categories: driving reform, finding resources and building reputation.

"Driving reform is probably the most exhilarating challenge facing university presidents—at least it is so for me," said Samarasekera. "I quickly learned that consensus building is essential to successful university leadership. But I also learned that a vision created through consensus still needs that extra inspirational, emotional and ambitious push that a president must supply."

As for finding resources, Samarasekera says that if a president can successfully create and drive a powerful vision, finding resources and building reputation flow from there.

"Financial and human resources are the lifeblood of the university—just as they are for any corporation or organization," said Samarasekera. "Without sufficient amounts of either, the university's ability to deliver on our main outputs—knowledgeable, skilled graduates and cutting-edge research discoveries—will suffer."

Finally, to compete for the best in everything—students, faculty and staff, facilities, funding, philanthropy, and all the other ingredients it takes to be known as a great university—Samarasekera says the president must deliberately champion the institution's reputation.

"Of all the many attributes and skills today's public university president must have, building reputation falls farthest outside our training and preparation for the job. Yet today, managing a university's brand, reputation and communications strategies are among the president's biggest concerns and is, by necessity, the focus of many of my activities."

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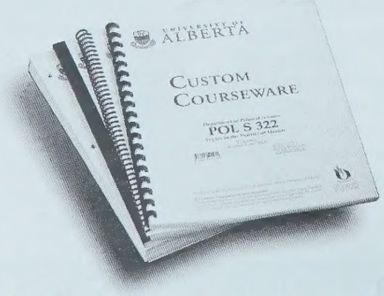

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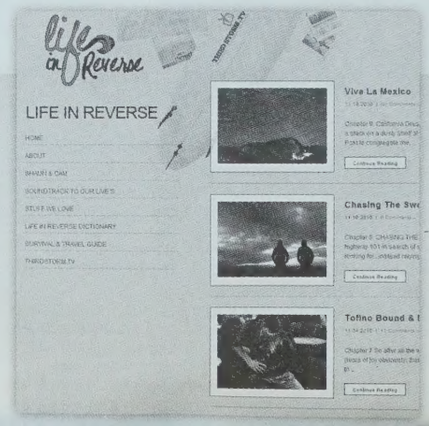
"Life in Reverse" (http://thirdstorm.tv/life-in-reverse/blog/) is a documentary series and blog following the journey of two University of Alberta grads who strive to find themselves and new perspectives, on their voyage to Nicaragua where they plan to follow their dream of building the ultimate surf home. With cameras and boards in tow, two novice surfers set out to live a surfing dream taking viewers along through the challenges, perils, and adventures of the journey. Follow their blog for chuckles, excellent music and quirky product recommendations, as well as savvy travel advice such as, "If you've never gone 'Clamming' before, please know that you will not feast on seafood like a King. In fact, you probably won't feast at all. Remember when you used to think your best friend's mom was easy? She's not. Same scenario…"



Fruit fly researcher finds mutation that causes restricted mobility

Raquel Maurier

A researcher and his team in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta have discovered the root cause of how a genetic mutation prevents muscles from attaching to each other, leading to limited mobility issues.

Andrew Simmonds, an associate professor of cell biology, has been working in his lab to determine the impact of mutations in certain genes that perform similar functions in both people and fruit flies. John Bell, a professor in biological sciences, started researching the topic 15 years ago with a team that included Simmonds as a graduate student. When Bell recently retired, Simmonds and other team members decided to continue the research.

"We said the work was too valuable to not keep going," says Simmonds, who, along with his graduate student Hua Deng, originally looked at how mutations in a specific gene could lead to congenital heart defects. However, when he made certain mutations in the gene, not only did it cause problems in the heart, but also caused musculoskeletal and mobility issues.

Simmonds says that by uncovering mutations that cause these developmental defects in the fruit flies, physicians can look for similar mutations when diagnosing genetic diseases in people that affect mobility and muscles. He hopes other researchers will take these results forward and, ultimately, that treatments might be developed to target the effects of this mutated gene. Half the battle of discovering a treatment for any condition, he says, is to first identify the cell, protein or gene that is causing the health problem in the first place.

Bell notes that basic science research is crucial because it builds the foundation for additional research.

"It's curiousity-driven research. It is building the foundation for applied research. In this case the research has spin-offs for human medical research."

The results of the team's work were recently published in *Molecular Biology of the Cell*, a journal of the American Society of Cell Biology.

U of A paves way for higher education in Croatia

Michael Davies-Venn

The University of Alberta and the Alberta government have signed agreements with the Government of Croatia that will create opportunities for Alberta's education institutions in that country. They establish the Croatian Research Doctoral Fellowship at the U of A's Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies and enhance the university's involvement with Edmonton's Croatian community.

Annette Trimbee, deputy minister, Alberta Ministry of Advanced Education and Technology and Croatia's ambassador to Canada, signed a memorandum of understanding Nov. 9, which the founding director of the Wirth Institute, Franz Szabo, says will ultimately benefit paves the way for higher education institutions in the province.

"A lot of European governments, especially countries that were part of the Eastern Bloc, have legislation that makes it difficult to reach specific agreements with universities and other institutions, unless a broad government to government framework is there within which that agreement can happen," said Szabo.

"This agreement with the provincial government represents that broad framework."

The agreement comes following negotiations between Szabo and the Croatian government, and Trimbee says the agreement creates important links for Alberta's students and researchers. She notes that the U of A continues to be a leader in creating such opportunities.

"Through this memorandum of understanding, we will be able to share the best resource available to us – our knowledge. Alberta places great emphasis on the international relationships fostered by our post secondary institutions, and we are particularly proud of the U of A. This university is a leader in developing successful international partnerships based upon the highest standards of teaching and research capabilities."

Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Carl Amrhein underscores the role of the U of A in putting Alberta on the international map. He says that the university takes great care in meeting the needs of the ministry and the province and that the Wirth Institute—Canada's only such institute—has been meeting its local, national and international mandate since it was established more than a decade ago to raise the profile of Central Europe and Central European Studies in Canada. Amrhein says the agreement with the Croatian government complements a long list of European countries currently supporting the institute.

"The signing of this agreement means that the central European dimension of our institute is now complete and that the U of A can take pride in having all of the Central European countries represented in the flags of the institute," Amrhein said.

Jelena Bulić is the first recipient of the fellowship, and Korać says she will be among a long list of other young researchers from Croatia who will come to Canada to learn and share knowledge, and, most importantly, build relationships.

> "Through this memorandum of understanding, we will be able to share the best resource available to us – our knowledge."
>
> Annette Trimbee

"One of the most important outcomes from the exchange of students is establishing networks. And from those networks we always hope for stronger personal relations, friendships and people-to-people relations," Korać said. Such is the kinds of relationships that Szabo says the institute has been building with communities in Alberta and that Amrhein say provides necessary support to the university.

"The support of the community is always important to a university. We have ongoing and very generous support from the people of Alberta, a level of support that is becoming increasingly rare in the world of public universities," Amrhein said. "However, public universities like ours rely on private philanthropy to add that margin of excellence, which allows us to compete effectively around the world with the best kinds of private universities with whom we often compete for faculty, staff and students."

Szabo says community engagement has been one of the hallmarks in building the Wirth Institute. He says genuine dialogue between the university and the communities is important.

"We're listening as much as we're talking with the communities we're engaged with at the institute. The communities value that and it is one of the reasons that they support us," Szabo said.

"We engage with the communities in ways that bring the people to the campus and bring the campus to the people. And that's important to them."

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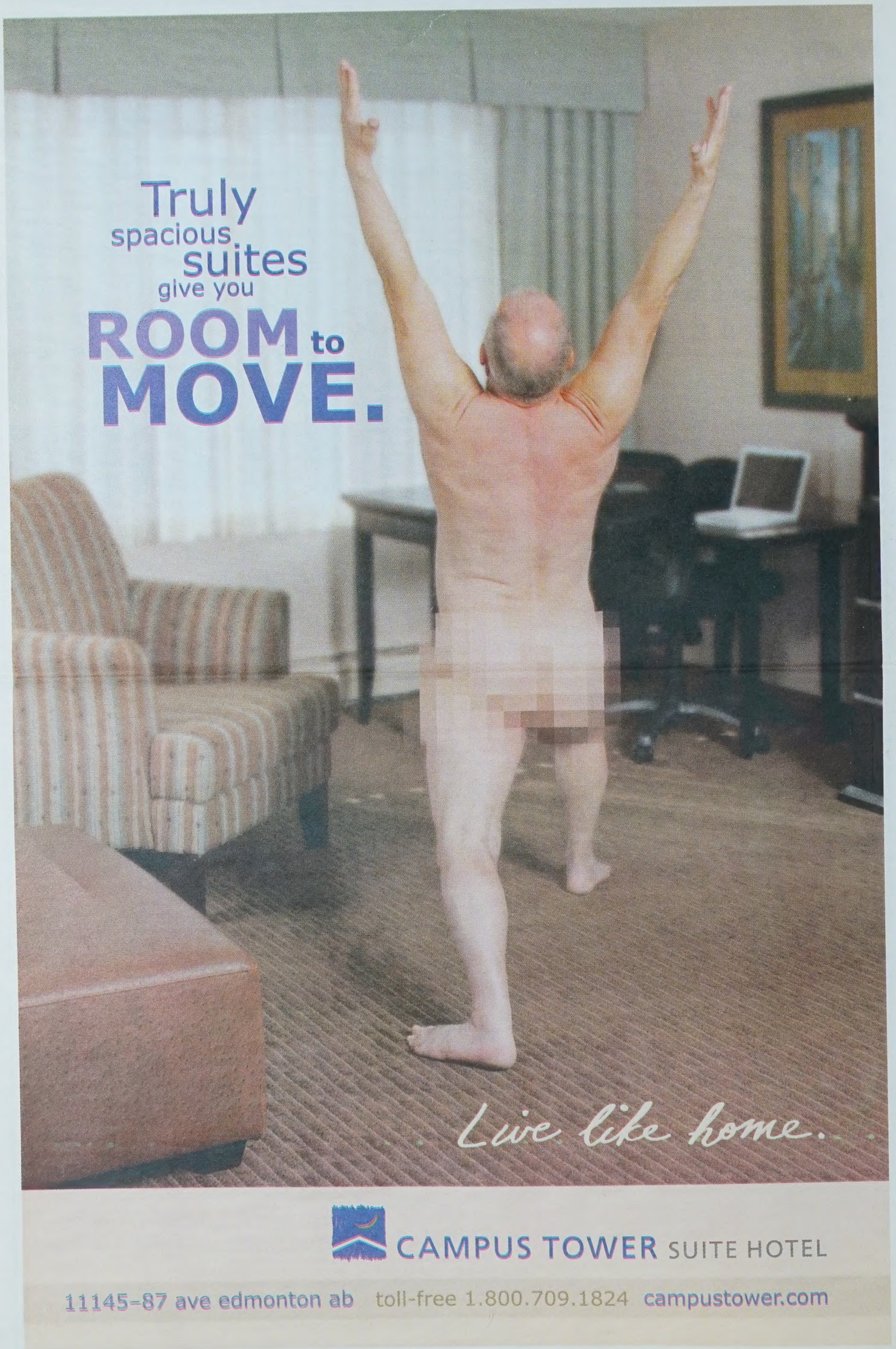
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Out of Africa for the Komodo dragon

Brian Murphy

U of A researchers have found links between a 33-million-year-old African lizard and the modern-day Komodo dragon found in Indonesia.

University of Alberta researchers have unearthed a mysterious link between bones of an ancient lizard found in Africa and the biggest, baddest modern-day lizard of them all, the Komodo dragon, half-a-world away in Indonesia.

Biologists Alison Murray and Rob Holmes say the unique shape of the vertebrae links the 33-million-year-old African lizard fossil with its cousin the Komodo, which has only been around for some 700,000 years.

"The African fossil was found on the surface of a windswept desert," said Holmes. "It's definitely from the lizard genus Varanus, and there are more than 50 species alive today, including Komodos and other large lizards."

Holmes says the telltale African vertebrae fossils belonged to a lizard that was about a metre- and-a-half long whose ability to swim may be key to figuring out how more than 30 million years later its ancestors turned up on the other side of the world.

Holmes says the ancient African Varanus specimen was found on land that was once the bottom of a river or small lake. "Whether the animals lived in the water or surrounding land, we don't know, but we do know that some modern day species of Varanus are comfortable swimming in fresh water."

The researchers agree that fresh-water swimming wouldn't get the African lizard all the way to Indonesia. Murray says the mystery of how the animals spread deepens when you consider ancient world geography. "From about 100 million years ago until 12 million years ago, Africa was completely isolated, surrounded by ocean, but somehow they got out of Africa during that period," said Murray. "That's why this paper is important; because there was no known land connection."

Murray says one unproven theory of how Varanus moved out of Africa is that, over millions of years, small land masses or micro-plates may have moved from one place to another, carrying their fauna with them.

The work of the U of A researchers and various co-authors runs counter to some prevailing theories about the origins of some ancient fossil types found in Africa, including Varanus lizards and some fresh-water fish. "The assumption for several types of ancient African fossils is that the animals didn't originate in Africa but came there from Asia," says Holmes. "But the fossil record of Varanus shows exactly the opposite path of migration."

The work of Murray and Holmes and various co-authors was published in the journal Palaeontology.

Writing mentor finds his inner extravert

Geoff McMaster

staff spotlight

While teaching for the first time as a PhD student, Rob Desjardins was struck by an epiphany: he wasn't an introvert after all.

"I thought I was that person who loved to read and write and be alone among stacks of books," says the recent doctoral graduate in history. "I never thought of myself as an extrovert, or a teacher, ever before. But it turned out that's where my primary passion lay.

Rob Desjardins

"I learned that I'm much more of a social person than I thought. It was the interaction and feedback from other people that really stimulated me. Something I thought I'd find nerve-racking—the teaching—turned out to be the absolute highlight of the experience."

When a job opened up in the University of Alberta's Academic Support Centre, helping other graduate students through the grueling process of writing and defending their scholarly work, Desjardins leapt in and soon fell in love with the mentoring process.

"I took on this job about eight months before finishing my degree," he says. "It's essentially all built around working with people, either in a one-to-one setting, or in workshops, and I found it every bit as rewarding as teaching history classes."

Because he survived the doctoral hero's journey himself, producing a study of a 15th-century crusading chronicle written in the French Court of Burgundy, he says he can relate to those various, sometimes overwhelming, writing anxieties students bring his way.

Desjardins is, quite simply, a lifeline for the drowning graduate student. In addition to helping students from all disciplines on campus tame the unwieldy thesis beast, he guides them through funding proposals, conference papers and strategies for satisfying defense committees. He also runs workshops in writing literature reviews, "overcoming procrastination and writer's block," and writing the scholarly abstract.

It doesn't hurt that he spent four years as a communications officer for the Faculty of Arts while chipping away at his master's degree, responding to any number of writing demands on deadline.

"I had a conversation with the dean of arts at the time, Daniel Woolf, and told him I love this work but also have a passion for history and the humanities," he says. "I told him I felt like I've been working in the ice cream shop serving up the ice cream, and I'd like to taste some myself for a change."

A graduate of the U of A's English program, he first started taking courses in history for personal enrichment and quickly met U of A historian Andrew Gow, "a very colourful, articulate historian," and a major inspiration for his own academic path.

Desjardins hasn't closed the door on seeking an academic appointment, but he admits "there's been this gradual siren's song " to do the kind of mentoring he is doing now.

"The one-on-one consultations, when a person really starts getting into their research, comparing what other theses have looked like and anticipating what their supervisors want to see—every one of those experiences is different. You can't plan for them, and it's so interesting and rewarding."

To find out more about Graduate Resources at the U of A, or to register in workshops, visit ualberta.ca/ascntr.

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Researchers put heart into transplant-predictor technology

Quinn Phillips

Pathologists around the world could soon better predict the outcome of a heart transplant, thanks to technology developed at the University of Alberta.

Ken Mathewson

Michael Mengel holds the future for assessing heart-transplant biopsies.

Michael Mengel, a pathology researcher with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, has found a new way to assess heart-transplant biopsies by looking at a patient's 54,000 genes. This is extraordinarily important in heart-transplant patients because the successful outcome is based completely on a biopsy, whereas other organ-transplants detectors can watch for other measurements.

It's hoped this technology and process will become a standard of care and further improve patient care within the next three to five years, says Mengel.

Using what is called gene-chip technology, Mengel can look at all 54,000 human genes in a heart-transplant biopsy. Then, by using software algorithms developed by the team at the Alberta Transplant Applied Genomics Centre, the data from the genes can be reduced to a dozen single numbers, all of which are necessary to diagnosis and assess prognosis of transplant patients.

"This system of molecular annotation to predict prognosis is better than anything else available currently," said Mengel. "We get more information out of the tissue than we were able to before reading all the genes."

As a current standard of care, pathologists use a microscope that allows them to assess single cells in the diseased tissue. The problem is, pathologists can see tissue lesions but can't see finer details like the difference between tissue injury and rejection. With Mengel's new approach, they can go beyond the microscope and assess changes in the molecules in a tissue that help pathologists tell the difference between certain disease processes. Based on such improved diagnosis, physicians can start appropriate treatment earlier, which will further improve a patient's long-term outcome after heart transplantation.

"Molecules also give mechanistic insight and can help to discover new drug targets," says Mengel, whose work was published recently in the *American Journal of Transplantation*.

Philip Halloran, the director of the Alberta Transplant Applied Genomics Centre and a member of the editorial board for the *American Journal of Transplantation*, has worked in transplant immunology for more than 30 years. Recently, the renowned group published work with gene chips and kidney transplants showing that molecules could better predict outcome than any other clinical or pathological parameter.

The transplant genomics group is getting close to having gene chip diagnostics used worldwide in clinics for both types of transplant patients. The next trial, which will begin in 2011, will be an international multi-centre validation trial for this work. The group will send this new type of biopsy results to transplant physicians across the United States, Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom and get feedback on the process, its efficiency and the utility of the data in a clinical setting.

Mengel is optimistic that in a few years, pathologists and transplant doctors elsewhere will start using the process he and his team have developed. "That time frame sounds like a long time for an individual patient, but in terms of device development in the health-care industry, it is a very short period. It's not any more research; it's already application in real patients."

The unlimited future of biofuels presented for all to SEE

Jamie Hanlon

Imagine pulling up to your local service station and having to decide whether to fill up with tree bark, wood chips or straw.

It may be slightly more complicated than that, and the economically viable scale of technology has not developed to that point yet, but David Stuart's work is taking us one step closer. On Nov. 5, Stuart discussed the concept of developing new technologies to produce advanced biofuels and his research into these areas as the next presentation in the "SEE The Research at Work" series in the Stollery Executive Development Centre at the Alberta School of Business.

Stuart's work revolves around manipulating structures in microbial organisms like yeast, to produce renewable fuel sources such as butanol and isolbutanol, two types of alcohol that can be used in regular gasoline-powered vehicles. Stuart says that his lab is also looking at producing these two chemicals from agricultural and municipal wastes, and that the thought of alternative fuel use in the not-too-distant future is not as far-fetched as it would seem.

"We normally think about these as waste products, but there are technologies for making those into fermentable materials that can be used by yeast to make alcohols or bio-diesel-type materials," he said.

Economically, Stuart notes, that production of those two alcohols would not be as cheap as petroleum-derived products such as gasoline or diesel. However, he says, they do have advantages that petroleum-based products do not: they are wholly renewable and the process of production follows a cyclical nature that does not exist with gas or diesel-burning engines.

"You start off with butanol. We burn it, carbon goes into the air. Plants use the carbon to make biomass, which is used to make butanol," said Stuart. "Depending on how efficient you are about collecting, harvesting and processing that biomass, it could mean a negative balance—more carbon is pulled out of the air than is put in."

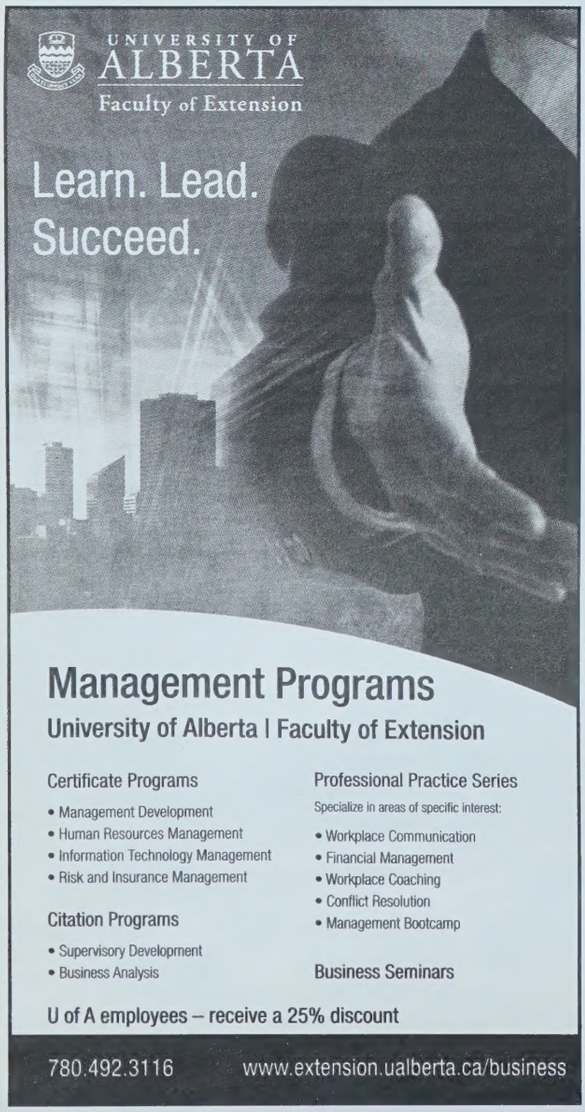
Overall, Stuart says it's important for people to recognize that there are more advanced forms of biofuels than those that are currently available and that do not require the use of food sources for production, unlike ethanol. Adapting to these fuels when they become readily available would not require any special mechanical adaptation to vehicles or blending or dilution with petroleum products. Further, "those things are here now. It's just an issue of how much can we produce, how efficiently can we do it," said Stuart.

While the production of butanol and isobutanol is not near a level where it is competitive cost-wise with gasoline, Stuart says as systems and processes improve, that circumstance may change. Further, the development of integrated bio-refinement, or fractioning a biomass product to maximize its use, also means that not all the economic eggs would be placed into fuel-resource basket.

Stuart uses trees as an example of a product that can undergo integrated bio-refinement. "As the technologies for degrading lingo-cellulose and the uses of lignin—the polymer in tree wood that's very difficult to do anything with—improves, you've got enormous biomass that you can do all kinds of wonderful things with, including making ethanol and butanol," said Stuart. "Our technology is not there, but as it gets there, we'll be in a very powerful position."

Stuart says this venture has two potential downsides, one of which is that these waste products are returned to the soil to facilitate growth. However, if the byproducts from resource extraction—nitrogen and phosphorus, for example—are put back into the ground, this issue is largely mitigated. The larger challenge, he says, lies in the issue of resource allocation and use; in other words, how much land and agricultural material are we willing to use to produce the fuels that will allow us to live the lifestyle we currently have.

"We [would be] using large swaths of land; not for food, but stuff to drive our cars with. That could have a pretty serious economic impact on the population," Stuart said. "Yes, we can use ligno-cellulosic materials, but are we going to deforest huge areas to get that stuff? Plant crops like wheat and grasses grow quickly, but trees don't."



U of A eying its own rocketry course

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta students with an eye for space exploration might get a chance to study rocketry right here in Edmonton. For the last year and a half, the U of A has been sending a few lucky students to week-long rocketry boot camps in Norway. The success of that program ignited a proposal by U of A researchers to start their own homegrown, introductory rocket science course.

Supplied

The U of A has been sending a students to week-long rocketry boot camps in Norway.

"We're putting together a plan for a one-term, laboratory-based course that could kick off in January 2012," said Dave Miles, a master's of science student. "The students would design and build sophisticated instruments here at the U of A and then launch them in Norway as part of a science payload."

In 2009, the U of A partnered up with the University of Oslo and the Andøya Rocket Range. So far, four U of A students have attended the week-long training and launch camps, referred to as the "Canada-Norway Student Sounding Rocket Exchange Program." The Andøya Rocket Range sits along Norway's North Sea coastline. The program is a partnership between the U of A and the universities of Oslo, Calgary and Saskatchewan.

Miles says the CaNoRock student trainees learned a number of launch roles including the building of simple atmospheric measurement instruments, assessing launch-time weather and predicting the rocket's flight path. The CanoRock program is supported by the U of A's Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund and is undertaken with the financial support of the Canadian Space Agency.

Stephen Portillo, a third-year U of A astrophysics student, just returned from a week at the Norway launch site where he monitored the science data fed back to Earth from the rocket as it reached an altitude above the North Sea.

"It was surreal knowing that this rocket, which we the students made, was nine kilometres up," said Portillo.

Portillo says the proposal for a rocketry course at the U of A would provide great opportunities. "It would be a good complement to physics and engineering students."

teaching & learning, learning & teaching

McCalla biologist promotes power of critical thinking

Geoff McMaster

The first thing Gregg Goss tells his students is that 90 per cent of what he knows is wrong. It may not be what wide-eyed undergraduates want to hear from an esteemed professor, but Goss is convinced that dispelling the illusion of certainty is a crucial first step to learning good science.

"We should not be so naïve as to believe what we know today is going to be right," says the biologist, a world expert in aquatic toxicology, co-leader of a $3.4 million federal research program to investigate the impact of nanomaterials on the environment and a 2010 recipient of the U of A McCalla Research Professorship. "It's only right according to what we know today, and that will change over time."

"That's the beauty of science—it's always in flux," adds Goss. "And it's an exciting thing you want to pass on to students. You don't want them to think all the experiments are done, because that's defeatist."

To drive his point home, Goss hands out published biology papers he knows are wrong and asks the students to find the errors. When they do, their confidence level spikes as they realize the power of critical thinking. In one such exercise his students even uncovered a case of fraud.

> "We should not be so naïve as to believe what we know today is going to be right."
>
> Greg Goss

"I knew the editor," says Goss. "So I called him up, and the paper was retracted."

Goss describes himself as a tough instructor who gets his introductory courses off the ground with a healthy dose of "shock and awe." The typical fall midterm average hovers at a mediocre 55 per cent, but most students quickly respond to the high demand and often surprise themselves, he says.

The core of the Goss undergraduate curriculum is animal physiology, and so he has an ambitious project outlined in his McCalla proposal to bring outdated labs (and their underlying assumptions) up to current standards. Especially with the opening of the new Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science, he says, "we'd like to have a new face to interdisciplinary science that involves physiology."

He explains that in recent years biology has been preoccupied with interactions at the molecular level. It is now time, he says, to shift focus back to the "whole organism, figuring out how it acts in a holistic manner. It's really important that we understand animals don't react like cells."

One of Goss' most successful exercises, one in which "it's impossible to cheat," involves describing the physiology of imaginary creatures, such as cartoon characters Pinky and the Brain, the Brain Bug from Starship Troopers or Jabba the Hut of Star Wars fame.

Supplied

Greg Goss is a leading expert in aquatic toxicology.

Using a mashup video, Goss introduces the subject of the assignment along with detailed environmental data that place limits on its physiology.

In the case of Jabba, says Goss, "I had him move from a fetal form in the water to an air-breathing form. As you move from one form to another, it creates differences in blood/oxygen transport capacities, how you deal with carbon dioxide, heat and water balance, From that they can predict or hypothesize how life would have evolved or needs to evolve in a particular manner, given those constraints."

Goss' passion is clearly contagious. He has what he calls a "very successful undergraduate component" in his own research, with "at least three or four, if not five or six, undergraduate students come through my lab. And I conduct fairly high-level experimentation.

"I want my students to be the best, I want them to think, and I want them hesitant to accept anything, because questioning is the heart of science."

Feather marks education grad's new journey

Bev Betkowski

When Sean Lessard crossed the stage to accept his master's degree in education from the University of Alberta last week, he received an eagle feather as part of the ceremony.

Lessard says the feather is almost more precious than the degree itself, because it represents a personal journey for him, and for each of the Aboriginal and Métis graduates who also received feathers or, in the case of Métis students, sashes.

For Lessard, a member of the Montreal Lake Cree Nation in Saskatchewan, the feather not only marks his own achievements in university, but may also help others to reach for higher education.

As an Aboriginal educational consultant with Edmonton Public Schools, Lessard hopes the youth he works with will draw meaning from the feather and venture on to their own journeys in the post-secondary world.

"Eagles represent balance and wisdom, and I hope the kids see that too."

The U of A has included the feather in its convocations for many years and this past spring added sashes for Métis graduates. Elders are on stage at the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium as each student graduates, and before the event, usually meet with the students to share the significance of the gifts they are about to take into their hands.

"It's a treasure they'll always keep in their personal lives," said Marge Friedel, an elder with the U of A's Aboriginal Student Services Centre. Friedel, who is of Métis heritage, advises new graduates on how to honour and care for their feathers and sashes.

"The eagle is one of the creatures that is so totally honoured because he goes closest to the Creator. If you pray to the eagle, the message will get there." Its feathers are, therefore, held in high esteem and have to be earned, she noted.

Supplied

Sean Lessard , who graduated last week, is a member of the Montreal Lake Cree Nation in Saskatchewan.

"The eagle is known for wisdom, courage and honesty, all qualities of the Creator that we can follow as role models."

The multi-coloured woven sashes given to Métis students reflect their mixed Aboriginal and European ancestry, and the resourcefulness of the early voyageurs who settled Canada, and remind the graduates to be proud of their pioneering ancestors. "The sashes were used to carry things; [they were used] as belts to keep the men's coats closed, even to repair their carts," Friedel said.

Today, the sashes would be worn to special events with pride "to signify who you are."

Friedel hopes that more students request a feather or sash for their convocations. "Life becomes busy for them as graduation nears, and they may not know to contact us to apply." To receive a feather or sash at convocation, students must contact the Aboriginal Student Services Centre.

A total of 10 students requested feathers or sashes at this week's convocation; three will receive sashes and seven will be gifted with eagle feathers, said Shana Dion, manager of the centre. The ceremony helps them connect with their roots and builds the self-confidence they need to move forward in life, she said.

"At the end of their educational journeys here at the U of A, we want them to be proud of their accomplishments and who they are."

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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Education marks alumnus' sacrifice for Canada

This year, Remembrance Day held a bit more meaning for the University of Alberta's Faculty of Education. It was the first one observed since the death of George Miok, a promising alumnus whose potential was extinguished while serving in Afghanistan last December.

However a new scholarship bearing his name, the Sergeant George R. Miok Memorial Scholarship, ensures that his name and his passion for teaching will be remembered within the faculty in perpetuity. Neil Hayes, the faculty's director of development, says that the Miok family, the driving force behind the scholarship, derive a sense of hope that their son—and his sacrifice—will never be forgotten, thanks to this award.

"George's mom, Anna, finds some solace in the fact that his memory will live on forever," said Hayes. "His name will live on through the university and through the lives of students that receive this award. They need to know why the scholarship happened and where it came from."

Miok, who served with the 41 Combat Engineer Regiment, joined the military in 1998 while still in high school. He continued to serve while pursuing his education degree but took a break from his studies to voluntarily serve on a tour of duty in Bosnia in 2002. In 2006, one year after convocating with a degree in secondary education, he volunteered for his first tour of duty in Afghanistan. Miok was serving his second tour in Afghanistan when he, three other soldiers and a journalist were killed by an improvised explosive device.

Since the scholarship's creation, donations have poured in from across Canada, including from the students and teachers of Parkland School Division and the Alberta Teachers' Association.

"He was very big on the fact that Canada gave his family huge opportunities, so he wanted to give something back to Canada," Hayes said. "I think he saw teaching, like his service in the military, as a service to the country. I think that he saw them as a way to give back." For more information about the Sergeant George R. Miok Memorial Scholarship, please contact Neil Hayes at 780-492-3680 or neil.hayes@ualberta.ca.

Business prof lands on Edmonton Top 40 Under 40 list

School of Retailing Director Kyle Murray has been selected as *Avenue Magazine*'s 2010 Top 40 Under 40.

The Top 40 Under 40 is a list that recognizes individuals who are enriching Edmonton in various ways. Being younger than 40 is the only specific criterion to make the list. Other than that, passion, hard work and a drive to make Edmonton a better place is what brings the diverse individuals together.

Murray landed on the list because of his contributions to the school. At 37, after having spent only two years at the school within the Alberta School of Business, Murray has helped raise $7 million and the profile of the retailing program.

"I think the biggest impact that I have is through the students I teach directly," he told Avenue.

Advisory review committee seeks input

Lorne Babiuk, vice-president (research), has advised President Indira Samarasekera that he would like to stand for a second term of office. In consultation with the chair of the board of governors, Brian Heidecker, Samarasekera has asked that an advisory review committee for vice-president (research) be struck. University of Alberta Policies and Procedures Online provide that members of the university community have an opportunity to contribute to the review process. Individuals are welcome to express their views on the priorities of the vice-president (research), including current issues, leadership and the future direction of the Office of the Vice-President (Research).

An anonymized summary of the feedback will be provided to Babiuk during the review process. President Samarasekera invites you to submit your comments and/or suggestions, in confidence, by 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 10 to her, care of Jackie Wright, secretary to the Advisory Review Committee, at 3-1 University Hall. She can be reached by phone at 780-492-9592, by fax at 780-492-9265 or via email at jackie.wright@ualberta.ca. Responsibility for the administration of the review process is housed in the Office of the President. Please note that the membership of the advisory review committee will be confirmed by Dec. 23, and posted on the president's website at www.president.ualberta.ca.

Virus mutation may hold key to cancer treatment

A recent PhD graduate whose key work was done in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta has received a prestigious award from the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies for his research that suggests a specific type of mutant poxvirus could be used to treat cancer.

Don Gammon and his colleagues worked in the lab of David Evans, chair of the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology. In the course of their work on poxviruses, the researchers discovered that a specific mutant poxvirus could be effective in treating cancer because the virus replicates only in cancerous cells, not healthy cells. The team has already filed a patent on the discovery.

"If a patient had a malignant tumour that spread throughout the body, possibly these viruses would be able to replicate in a tumour in one part of the body, eliminate that tumour, then spread from that tumour through the bloodstream to another tumour site and kill that tumour as well. That is the ultimate goal in general.

"There are already other mutant poxviruses in human clinical trials for treating human cancers. This is the next generation of medicine."

Sing, dance, sew – A U of A triple threat

Bev Betkowski

For most university students, school work consumes their time. For Krystle Dos Santos, taking classes was just part of the four-year learning adventure she's capping off at this week's convocation at the University of Alberta.

Once a student by day, budding singer by night, Dos Santos is now a U of A graduate with a flair for fashion and two record albums under her belt.

The 28-year-old songbird crosses the stage Nov. 17 to receive her bachelor of science degree in clothing and textiles from the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, and has just finished her second soul album.

Now she's concentrating on strengthening her music career, and blending her university degree into her dreams.

"I'm excited. Getting this degree hasn't felt like work. It will just lead me to the next door to be opened," Dos Santos said.

Harbouring a passion for both music and fashion, Dos Santos saw no reason she couldn't pursue both at the same time—though it took a few years to reach that realization.

After graduating from Jasper Place High School in Edmonton, Dos Santos studied performing arts in Victoria, B.C. for a year before deciding to "get out into the world." She travelled to England to audition for singing gigs with girl groups, got work here and there, and then returned to Edmonton, unsure of what was next for her.

But she had always been interested in fashion and put her music career temporarily on hold after she heard about someone who was enrolled in the clothing and textiles program in the U of A's Department of Human Ecology. "They'd learned how to make corsets, and after I looked into the program, it sounded amazing.

"I have always been interested in fashion, especially the idea of repurposing clothing and designing jewelry."

But it wasn't long before her music was back on the scene, filling in whatever time wasn't spent in class. "Music always came naturally to me, even though I was never chasing to too hard. It was just always there."

So, while she fashioned corsets by day, Dos Santos performed after classroom hours, singing at Friday-night gigs, doing summer and Christmas break tours, and eventually even winning a grant from a radio station to record a self-titled album in 2008—her first.

By carefully balancing her workload, Dos Santos managed to keep up with both her studies and her singing.

"When you love what you are doing, you balance it and make it work. I did two or three classes a day, maximum. If you're working, take one course per semester out of the equation and it clears your mind for other things."

Though it would have seemed more logical to take a degree in music instead of fashion, Dos Santos doesn't see it that way.

"I am happier that I didn't take a music degree but took courses that were both business oriented and creatively driven. Plus, having that education behind you is so valuable for common-sense purposes and living day to day, let alone applying it to a career."

Supplied

Krystle Dos Santos

Now, even as she concentrates on her music full time (she just finished her second album), Dos Santos says she uses her U of A education every day. "My degree is proving to be such an asset. The marketing classes I took are brilliant for targeting markets and, on the creative side, I can design my own costumes for performances, and I style myself based on what I learned. This will be a real asset when I get to a level where I know I can have a (fashion) team helping me out."

Being the first in her family to earn a university degree makes Dos Santos doubly pleased. "Knowing that you're part of a really good institution like the U of A gives such a feeling of accomplishment and belonging."

Hear Krystle Dos Santos sing by going to her website: http://www.krystledossantos.com.

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Michael Brown

Winter has arrived on campus.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Jan. 14, 2011

The John H. Meier, Jr. Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction Collection. This exhibition presents examples of first editions of all the titles that have won Canada's prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction from its inception to the present. Noon–4:30 p.m. Rutherford Library.

Until Nov. 30

United Way Coats for Kids Alumni Affairs Collection. If you have a gently used coat that you would like to donate, contact Alumni Affairs at 492-7726. Any size, any style are needed.

Nov. 19

Golden Bears and Panda's Volleyball versus Trinity Western University Spartans. Pandas to follow. 6:30 p.m. Main Gym

Nov. 19–21

Rewriting a Country: Towards a Just and Peaceful Canada. Parkland Institute 14th Annual Fall Conference. For more information, visit: www.parklandinstitute.ca.

Nov. 20

Gateway Centenary Celebration Dinner. The Gateway is 100 years old and is celebrating this momentous occasion with a Centennial Gala Dinner and an evening program featuring a keynote address from the Honourable Peter Lougheed, other speeches, toasts to the decades, storytelling, and general revelry. 5 p.m., Aberhart Centre. www.ualberta.ca/alumni/gateway.

Nov. 21

World Music Sampler. 2 p.m. Con Hall Arts and Convocation Hall.

Nov. 22

Dept of Cell Biology, AHFMR Guest Speaker. Mo Motamedi, instructor in the Department of Cell Biology at Harvard University, presents. 9:30–10:30 a.m., 628 Medical Sciences.

18th Annual E.G. King Memorial Lecture. The Department of Medicine is pleased to announce Stephen Lewis, professor in Global Health at McMaster University as the 18th Annual E.G. King Memorial Lecturer. All faculty, students and support staff are welcome. Reception to follow. Please RSVP to karen.phillips@ualberta.ca or call 780-248-2003 4–5 p.m. Bernard Snell Hall Auditorium, University of Alberta Hospital.

Nov. 23

Does the Internet Lie? This year, a distinguished panel of U of A scholars will discuss an aspect of humanities computing, an exciting new field that is changing the way research in the humanities is carried out. We are honoured that Chad Gaffield, the president of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, will be attending this year's event. 3–5 p.m., Lister Centre.

Carbon Busters On Energy Efficiency and EcoCommunities. Carbon Busters is developing one of Alberta's first zero-carbon sustainable communities in Leduc County. The intent is to design and develop a pilot sustainable community that will showcase innovative green systems for water, grey water, waste treatment, power generation and green living practices with a focus on research and education for sustainable development. 5:30 p.m., 2-009 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex.

Nov. 24

"Relation between physical activity level and nutrient adequacy in normal weight men and women: Implications for cancer risk." The Alberta Institute for Human Nutrition is pleased to host Ilona Csizmadi, research scientist and epidemiologist in the Division of Population Health and Information at Alberta Health Services later next month. Noon–1 p.m. 1-040 (Oborowsky Degner Seminar Hall) Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation.

Nov. 25

Grants 2.0 & the Researcher Home Page. The Research Services Office invites all U of A researchers and staff involved in research administration to attend a detailed introduction on the use of the Grants 2.0 Researcher Home Page. Please register via http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=4621 10:30 a.m.–noon. 2F1.02 University of Alberta Hospital (Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre).

CIUS Seminar Series. "The Implications of Ukrainian Studies in Korea." Presented by Joung Ho Park from the Institute of Russian Studies, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies. 3 p.m., 2-27 Athabasca Hall.

Nov. 25

History & Classics Colloquium: Laundering Money and Souls: Usury, Poor Relief and Theology at the Early University of Paris. The Department of History & Classics and The Medieval & Early Modern Institute Present "Laundering Money and Souls: Usury, Poor Relief and Theology at the Early University of Paris," presented by Spencer Young, post-doctoral Mellon Fellow, Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies Papal and royal patronage of the early University of Paris. 3:30–5:30 p.m., 4-5 Alberta School of Business.

Research Forum, Expertise and interactions in online science commenting. 3:30–4:30 p.m. 122 Education South Education Centre, North & South.

Nov. 26

Dept of Cell Biology Friday Seminar Series, AHFMR Visiting Lecturer. Natalie G. Ahn, professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and HHMI, University of Colorado, Boulder, presents "A new route to cell polarity through Wnt5a signaling." Noon–1 p.m., 628 Medical Sciences.

Nov. 29–30

Cameron Library Craft Sale. Annual Cameron Library Craft Sale with free admission and door prizes. 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m.

Nov. 29

Festival of nine lessons and carols for advent and Christmas. A benefit for the U of A Campus Food Bank, Winspear Centre. 7:30 p.m. tickets available at the box office.

Nov. 30

Bob Mills, Consultant to and representative of Plasco Energy Group. Bob Mills will overview the increasingly popular technology for waste management, plasma gasification. This technology holds promising potential to turn toxic waste into synthetic gas. This Syngas can then be used for fuel in internal combustion engines to generate electricity, and combined with heat recovery systems can be incorporated in co-generation systems. 5:30 p.m. 2-009 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex.

Dec. 1–3

Workplace Integration of New Nurses – Nursing the Future 2010 Conference. The WINN-NTF Conference provides a forum for managers, educators, mentors, preceptors, faculty, human resources, new graduates, students, government, professional associations and unions to share knowledge, experiences and strategies that promote successful integration of new nurses in the practice setting. For more information, go to www.winn-ntf.com.

Dec. 2

E-Health Symposium 2010: Fast Tracking Health Innovation. For more information, go to www.trlabs.ca/trlabs/healthsymposium.ca.

CIUS Seminar Series. "Mobility and Security in the EU's Neighbourhood: The Case of Ukraine". Presented by Lyubov Zhyznomirska, Department of Political Science, University of Alberta. 3 p.m. 2-27 Athabasca Hall.

Sent from the trenches

Supplied

U of A Museums is featuring a wooden plaque, hand-carved by a former U of A student while serving in the military, in an exhibition in the foyer of the Arts Building for the month of November. Believed to have been carved in the trenches, the front of the plaque displays the name of the Princess Patricia's Infantry, its insignia, and the battles fought by the regiment in France prior to 1915. The back of the plaque (inset) is signed by 20 U of A students fighting with the PPCLI in France. Only three of these soldiers returned home.

laurels

Secondary education professor **Nancy Melnychuk** has received the R. Tait McKenzie Award of Honour for her commitment to the advancement of health and physical education.

Jennifer Argo, professor in the Alberta School of Business, has won the Association for Consumer Research's Early Career Award for Contributions to Consumer Research. Argo is the first recipient of this new award that honours the contributions of consumer behavior researchers who received a PhD less than eight years ago.

Margaret-Ann Armour, founder of the Women In Scholarship, Engineering, Science & Technology (WISEST) program for girls and women, was nominated as a Champion of Change, a CBC radio contest to celebrate volunteerism in Canada.

THE U OF A'S BIG SPLASH

Photos by Michael Davies-Venn

Dean of the Alberta School of Business Mike Percy (top left), took the first plunge to kick off the fifth annual JDC West Chillin' for Charity fundraiser for the United Way Nov. 17. Dozens of cannonballers braved the frigid weather to take a dip in Arctic waters in front of hundreds of onlookers.

KEVAN WARNER
UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
108 BARD

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 2
Bringing Iraq on board
U of A partners up with war-torn nation to help rebuild education system

Page 4
University 101
Exploring the U of A's facilities and operations

Page 8
The old Killam try
Public-health Killam winner gives students the best the U of A has to offer

Volume 48 Issue 7 | December 3, 2010 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Industry partner injects funding into virology research

Julia Necheff

Leading-edge virology research in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry received another major boost Nov. 25 with a $5 million donation from international pharmaceutical firm GlaxoSmithKline Inc., a long-time industry partner of the University of Alberta.

The contribution, "the largest endowment we have made as a company in Canada to an academic institution," is in recognition of the groundbreaking work and excellence of the virology team at the new Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology, and the U of A's rising status as a world-class centre of research and teaching, said Paul Lucas, GlaxoSmithKline Canada president and CEO.

"I've been coming to Edmonton for 35 years, and I have seen an unbelievable transformation in this university and the position it now takes in Canada's university system," Lucas said at a news conference also attended by Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach and U of A president Indira Samarasekera. "There's a lot to be proud of here."

The GSK Virology Research Support Endowment Fund will be used to help sustain the operations of the Li Ka Shing Institute, where more than two dozen researchers are studying how viruses infect cells and cause disease, how viral infections can be prevented and new ways to treat them.

Lucas called GSK's contribution an investment in the "great science that's being done here at the U of A, specifically the institute, and the researchers who are doing this great work. I really believe that [viruses] are one of the areas that is going to be a real challenge to the human race and to health-care systems around the world, and we hope the work that's being done here will transform the treatment and prevention of viral disease," he said.

GSK's relationship with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry goes back 23 years.

Continued on page 2

Shorn for a good cause

Supplied

More than 50 students and staff helped raise $25,000 for the Cross Cancer Institute during the seventh annual Engineering Head Shave Nov. 26.

U of A grabs 4 new Canada Research Chairs

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta has been awarded four new Canada Research Chairs to go along with 10 renewals, worth a total of $11.5 million, the federal government announced Nov. 24.

"Ten years ago, the government of Canada decided to take action against the 'brain drain' that was threatening to deplete the intellectual capital of our country," said U of A President Indira Samarasekera. "Through the creation of the Canada Research Chair program, Canadian universities were given a powerful tool to recruit and retain top talent, and there is little doubt that it has been effective.

"At the University of Alberta, the CRC program has played an integral role in our ability to develop and enrich a world-class research culture that now attracts renowned faculty members as well as the best in new faculty and student talent."

Each of the four new CRCs were named as a tier 2 CRC researcher, a title that comes with a $500,000 award to be paid out over five years. This list includes Duane Froese, CRC in northern environmental change; Marcello Tonelli, CRC in the optimal care of people with chronic kidney disease; Tanya Berry, CRC in physical activity promotion, and Lars-Oliver Klotz, CRC in pharmaceutical sciences.

Froese, a professor in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Science, has spent his career focusing on understanding environmental dynamics and impact of climate on Arctic systems. This includes investigating sediment and permafrost records to look at the context of recent warming in the Western Arctic. Recently, Froese's team found permafrost within the discontinuous permafrost zone—the area where permafrost is warm, shallow and within a few degrees of 0 C—ice that has survived for more 700,000 years. Froese says because of this longevity, there is great potential to unlock the story of climate change since the last time the Arctic was as warm, or warmer, than it is today

"For someone interested in northern science, the U of A is one of the best places to be based at," said Froese, who is in his eighth year at the U of A. "It is a very supportive environment with a really great diversity of people across campus who are interested in northern science and geosciences in particular."

Klotz, whose CRC was the first for the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, says he will use his CRC research project to investigate the mechanisms by which reactive oxygen species are generated and how, and to what end they disrupt or stimulate cellular and inter-cellular communication pathways. Klotz explains that reactive oxygen species, including the oft-cited free radicals, have been found to destroy cellular components and affect cellular signaling processes that regulate cell growth, metabolism and adaptation. The prevailing measure to combat this destruction has been an extra supply of antioxidants, although Klotz says while they prevent interaction of reactive species with biomolecules, the presence of antioxidants impedes the signaling processes that are essential for adaptive processes to occur—such as muscle adaptation after exercise.

"The project combines pharmaceutical sciences with several disciplines, such as biochemistry/molecular biology, toxicology and nutrition research in search of novel antioxidant strategies that aim at modulating stress-induced signaling to either diminish toxic, or augment desired, effects of reactive oxygen species or any stimulus that comes with their enhanced generation," said Klotz.

> "Through the creation of the Canada Research Chair program, Canadian universities were given a powerful tool to recruit and retain top talent, and there is little doubt that it has been effective."
>
> Indira Samarasekera

Continued on page 3

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

The University of Alberta maintains a database of all alumni. This database is used to send you news about the U of A, including folio and *New Trail*, invitations to special events and requests for support. On Sept. 1, 1999, post-secondary institutions were required to comply with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation of the province of Alberta. In accordance with this legislation, please respond to one of the following options:

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No response means the University of Alberta assumes an individual wishes to remain on the mailing list.

U of A a destination for Iraqi students

Michael Davies-Venn

The University of Alberta will soon be hosting a portion of the 2,000 students the Iraq government is sending to universities around the world in an effort to help rebuild the Middle Eastern country.

The U of A's participation in the program comes as part of a memorandum of understanding signed Nov. 29 by Iraq's ministry of education and the university.

Iraq's director general of research and development, Mohammed A. Atiya Al-Saraj, who signed the agreement, says his government is pleased with the U of A's tradition of high-quality education and research.

"The U of A is among the excellent universities in North America, and we saw during our short visit to some of the research labs, examples of that excellence in the work being done here," said Atiya Al-Saraj. "We were pleased to see some of the technological research capacities in chemical engineering and research on oilsands, which indicate how research is advancing at the U of A and the excellence of the university itself."

The U of A is one of four Canadian universities that are signatories to a plan by the Iraqi government to send 2,000 students from its 18 universities abroad each year for the next decade. Atiya Al-Saraj says the students will return to Iraq and participate in the reconstruction of the country, serving as faculty members and researchers. He explained the agreement also invites the U of A to help the Iraqi government establish a research environment in the Middle Eastern nation

"That can include co-operation in research and co-supervising Iraqi students," said Atiya Al-Saraj, who sees the U of A's role as a research leader in petroleum engineering as beneficial in helping develop the county's oil sector.

"There could be co-operation between the university and the oil industry in our country, and we can do a lot of work in that area, especially since our oil industry is planning to open research centres at our universities."

Britta Baron, vice-provost and associate vice-president international, said the MOU is just one example of the U of A's commitment to live up to its global responsibility.

"The U of A has lots to offer in the process of rebuilding Iraq's university system. The country has a proud tradition of academic excellence and the U of A is now collaborating with Iraq's universities to expand and promote their institutions," said Baron. "We have outstanding research capacities and services to ensure that international students succeed and make meaningful connections that will be useful when they return home to help build their country."

Iraq's cultural attaché to Canada, Mohamed Abdudulkadir, echoed those views. He says visits to the U of A convinced him that the university will be a good place for students from his country.

"I am impressed with the research capacity of the U of A, particularly its chemical and petroleum engineering, for example," he said. "All of this will help in the new Iraq."

This agreement builds on earlier arrangements between the U of A and Iraq. The U of A is one of seven international universities belonging to a UNESCO initiative to rebuild Iraq's primary education structure.

Supplied

Iraq's director general of research and development Mohammed A. Atiya Al-Saraj and U of A Provost Carl Amrhein sign a memorandum of understanding.

Creating an education revolution in Iraq by way of Edmonton

Jamie Hanlon

A new revolution is building in Iraq, and this one has a University of Alberta connection.

The U of A is one of seven international universities—and the only North American institution—belonging to a UNESCO initiative to rebuild the country's education structure. And three professors from the U of A's Faculty of Education, George Richardson, Frank Jenkins and Bob Ritter, recently returned from a conference in Iraq where they worked with international partners on how to further engage educational change in the country.

The U of A's involvement started in 2007 when the faculty signed a memorandum of understanding to assist UNESCO in developing a teacher-training program in the war-torn country. Since then, George Richardson's International Initiatives office has seen a group of Iraqi university professors visit the U of A faculty to explore instructional design and lay the groundwork for reformatting their science program. Richardson has travelled the Middle East to meet with international colleagues to build policy on for the new Iraqi education structure.

But, interest grew in terms of the role that the U of A could play in this new educational frontier. The contribution went from providing expertise for math and sciences to developing teacher education modules that could be used in the partner institutions in Iraq and throughout that country's school system.

"We've had quite a bit of influence on the direction of the project. They took our expertise on how to organize around these certain concepts," said Richardson.

> "This notion of uplifting the people . . . ends up addressing some of the critical components of global citizenship, of how this university can engage with the world in a meaningful way and can have an impact."
>
> George Richardson

Perhaps the most significant change introduced to the Iraqi education system through these modules is the use of inquiry-based learning. Jenkins says that this new approach required developing an understanding of how to teach science and develop a student-centric approach that conveys the both process of science and the scientific method.

Jenkins says that one of the points he communicated to his Iraq hosts was that a parallel exists between what scientists know and how students learn. He says that the message of the importance of scientific inquiry and scientific attitudes—which contain certain characteristics such as questioning, being open-minded and non-judgmental—would work to move them towards a more democratic process as well. The next step, he says, is for the Iraqis to take the lessons they provided and make them contextually relevant and culturally topical for the country.

Richardson is optimistic that change will happen since the ministry is now looking for ways to move these tools from the university level into the country's school system directly. The critical point, he notes, is how this new approach to knowledge and content delivery methods are received at that level, since it will have an effect on the ultimate success of the project.

"If schools are now starting to see the possibilities and be supportive when the new teachers come in with their new approaches, then the possibility for takeoff is much higher," said Richardson. "If you can get a teacher to influence students in a classroom, that influence lasts a lifetime. It doesn't take too many lifetimes like that to add up to a significant impact in rebuilding a culture, a system."

Beyond that, he notes that, aside from the need for resources, stability is also a challenge that needs to be overcome. While areas such as Kurdistan, where their conference took place, is relatively safe, he points to continued fighting and unrest in areas such as Basra and al-Anbar province as barriers to unilaterally rebuilding Iraq's education system and changing the country's political, economic and social fortunes.

"This notion of uplifting the people is one of the results of what we do," he said. "It ends up addressing some of the critical components of global citizenship, of how this university can engage with the world in a meaningful way and can have an impact."

Virology funding

continued from page 1

Lucas and internationally respected U of A hepatitis researcher Lorne Tyrrell each recalled the early days of discovery in the late 1980s when Tyrrell began collaborating with GSK that led to the development of a landmark treatment for hepatitis B—a drug now helping millions around the globe. Then, in the 1990s, GSK made a major contribution toward the construction of a level 3 virology lab on campus, and provided funding for the Glaxo-SmithKline Chair in Virology, held by Tyrrell, and the Glaxo Heritage Research Institute of Virology—which earlier this year became the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology, with Tyrrell as the institute's founding director.

"I firmly believe that we can only translate research—get it from the laboratory to the patient—by partnering with industry," said Philip Baker, dean of the faculty. "This money will continue to build a critical mass of expertise, second to none, of researchers discovering vaccines and treatments for some of the globe's most devastating infectious diseases like hepatitis C and tuberculosis."

Samarasekera said GSK's support over the years has been instrumental in the development of the virology research programs, and has enabled the university to leverage additional funding from agencies such as the former Alberta Heritage Fund for Medical Research, the Canadian Foundation for Innovation and Genome Canada.

"GlaxoSmithKline has transformed the learning and discovery experience of students and faculty," she said. "They continue to enhance our ability to recruit major new talent and attract external funding that will propel this institution onto a whole new level. But, most of all, GSK's gifts have and will continue to transform lives around the world."

Had it not been for the pharmaceutical company's initial investment, there would be no Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology today, university and faculty representatives stressed. Part of an international network of leading virology centres, the institute was established this year with funding from the federal and provincial governments—and a major gift ($28 million) last April from the Li Ka Shing (Canada) Foundation and double-matching funding ($52.5 million) from the Alberta government.

The institute also enabled the faculty to attract world-renowned clinical virologist Michael Houghton. The faculty recruited Houghton through the Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) program, a federal initiative aimed at bringing the world's best scientists to Canada. Houghton and his collaborators discovered the hepatitis C virus in 1989.

Lucas acknowledged the role of the Alberta government, saying the province has supported innovation by making "significant investments" and putting the right framework and policies in place. "We look forward to working with you to develop a vibrant life sciences cluster here in Alberta," he said to Premier Stelmach.

Tyrrell said the new GSK endowment will help pay for the day-to-day operation of the institute, and maintain core laboratory facilities critical to virology and immunology research. This infrastructure allows U of A scientists to conduct internationally competitive research, he said.

Questions take centre stage at successful 2010 Festival of Ideas

Jamie Hanlon

The Greek philosopher Socrates encouraged his students to use questions as a means of stimulating critical thinking and illuminating ideas. So one could say that this year's Festival of Ideas would have been Socrates-approved.

The University of Alberta event, sponsored by a host of community partners including the City of Edmonton, Capital Power Corporation and the CBC, wrapped up Nov. 22 after five days of presentations that challenged people to view their world differently, provokes reflection and discussion and, mainly, be entertained.

> "Without our attendees, we wouldn't have a festival. They're part of the festival and they played that role absolutely wonderfully."
>
> Miki Andrejevic

Festival director Miki Andrejevic said presenters Jared Diamond and David Sedaris made excellent bookends to this year's event, offering up perspectives on society with both wisdom and satire. He said both performers provided content and perspective that fit perfectly with the festival's theme of truth and lies.

Both men provided memorable, thoughtful and entertaining moments for the crowds, said Andrejevic, but for him, some of the key moments in the festival came during public performances by Ernesto Cardenal and Baba Brinkman. Cardenal's event at City Hall drew a large crowd to hear the Nicaraguan poet recite work that made attendees "think and rethink what we know about our society," said Andrejevic.

In the case of Brinkman, it was bringing a triple threat into a public venue to explore evolution. "He's a scholar, a poet and an entertainer," said Andrejevic. "For those who attended, it was really quite a treat."

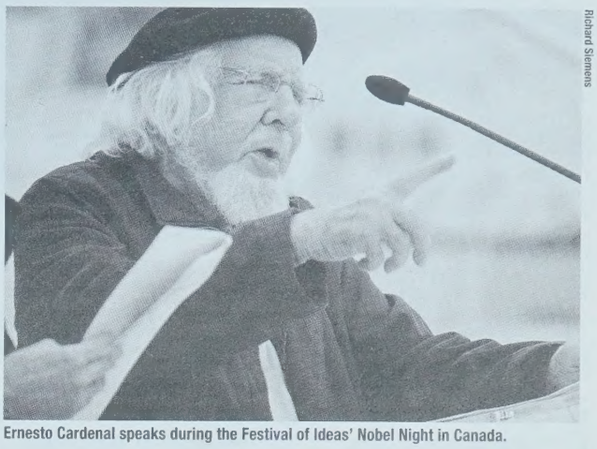
One of the most powerful moments of the festival came from Mende Nazer during Sunday afternoon's Slave and Nomad. Nazer, an author and human-rights activist who was sold into slavery as a child in Sudan, concluded the presentation with a very simple and powerful statement, "I am free, therefore, happy."

"It's quite a message sent to all of us who are struggling with our 'happiness,'" Andrejevic said. "She received a standing ovation."

Another feature of the festival was La Belle Danse. The multidisciplinary baroque performance conceived specifically for the festival. Andrejevic said that Albertans were exposed to a lively and engaging ballet performance that was pure education and discovery.

With the second incarnation of the Festival of Ideas now complete, Andrejevic says it could be summed up in three words: education, discovery and participation. He says the high attendance at the many events and the overwhelming response from attendees would indicate Edmontonians want more from the Festival of Ideas. In addition, like a true showman, he knows the true formula for putting on a show: give them what they want, leave them wanting more and make them feel like they were part of the show.

"I really want to express my gratitude and thank people for coming to the festival," said Andrejevic. "Without our attendees, we wouldn't have a festival. They're part of the festival and they played that role absolutely wonderfully."



Richard Siemens

Ernesto Cardenal speaks during the Festival of Ideas' Nobel Night in Canada.

Words that launched a thousand ships

Folio Staff

As the University of Alberta celebrated its latest fall convocation at the end of November, a former prime minister, Alberta's lieutenant governor and a local humanitarian accepted honorary degrees and imparted these words of wisdom to the university's graduands:

"In the months and years ahead, you will all acquire a new professional label . . . I'd like to challenge each of you to start thinking about an additional label that you'd like to wear, one that reflects how you have chosen to give back. In the end, that one will be infinitely more important and more satisfying than a simple job description."

~ Donald Ethell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, who received an honorary doctor of laws degree Nov. 17.

"And while making strides in your career and personal lives, take time to see if you notice inequity and injustice around you. If you do, figure out if there's anything you can do about it. Having a radical view on life will give you the courage and the spiritual energy required to try and create changes in your workplace and your community."

~ Yvonne Shi-Wan Chiu, U of A alumna and champion of immigrant and refugee rights, who received an honorary doctor of laws degree Nov. 17.

"The world needs you. Canada needs you. Canada needs your insight. Canada needs your input into democracy. It doesn't mean that you have to run as a candidate. It doesn't mean that you have to go and work in the public service. But, at the very least, it means engaged citizenship."

~ Kim Campbell, Canada's 19th and first female prime minister, who received an honorary doctor of laws degree Nov. 18.

CRCs

continued from page 1

Tonelli will focus his research on a comprehensive and innovative "chronic disease laboratory" to design and test novel management strategies to improve the health of people by integrating a knowledge-translation strategy for people with, or at risk for, chronic kidney disease. He says he is excited about the prospects of ramping up his research and gives much of the credit for his CRC to the support shown by his department.

"Our department really benefits from the Academic Alternate Relationship Plan instituted with help from Alberta Health and Wellness," said Tonelli, of the Department of Medicine's funding pool, which remunerates physicians with a predictable income based on a compensation grid that reflects years of service and training. "The A-ARP complements other programs like the CRC and protects the time of medical researchers, allowing them to devote more of their time to produce outstanding research."

Berry, a professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, examines the dual processing of messages—conscious and automatic—that occurs in our cognitive processes, and looks at ways to deepen understanding of how best to promote health in an often overwhelming media environment, where so many different messages clamour for our attention. Berry's research has major implications on our health-care system as sedentary living has been linked to, among other things, cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, obesity and even early death. "The problem with much of the current research we have on behaviour change assumes that people are going to reflect on the messages they see," said Berry, who believes that understanding how we think about exercise at the subconscious level may unlock the secrets to helping people adopt and maintain healthy, active lifestyles.

Chris Le, professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences and the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, had his CRC in bioanalytical technology advanced to tier-1, which jumps his award to $1.4 million, paid out over seven years. Other tier 1 renewals included engineering professor Clayton Deutsch, a CRC in resources uncertainty management; psychology professor Roger Dixon, CRC in cognition and aging; biomedical engineer Robert Burrell, CRC in nanostructured biomaterials; and math professor Vladimir Chernousov, CRC in algebra.

Tier-2 renewals include immunologist Edan Foley, CRC in innate immunity; public-health researcher Yutaka Yasui, CRC in biostatistics and epidemiologic methods; nursing professor Carole Estabrooks, CRC in knowledge translation; mechanical engineering professor Alidad Amirfazli, CRC in surface engineering; and chemical and materials engineering professor Jingli Luo, CRC in alternative fuel cells.

With this round of Canada Research Chair announcements, the U of A currently lays claim to 91 research chairs worth $13.1 million annually.

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Fan Yang, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Nov. 19 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Yang correctly identified the "There's a Heifer in Your Tank" coffee mugs in the photo as sitting in front of the cross cut of the 900-year-old Douglas fir sitting on the main floor of the Agriculture/Forestry Centre . For identifying the photo in question, Yang has won said mugs.

Up for grabs this week is a U of A-emblazoned metal water bottle. To win, simply identify where on campus the water bottle in the above photo are located. Email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Dec. 10, and you will be entered into the draw.

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Michael Davies-Venn

University 101

Before anything, the U of A is a place

Michael Brown

Although a university's mandate is to promote research and learning, it is—before anything else—a place. And being a place, a university needs to be built, grown, renovated, maintained and to continuously react to the formidable and changing needs of research and learning.

Don Hickey

Such responsibility at the University of Alberta is put on the shoulders of the office of the vice-president of Facilities and Operations.

"Our primary goal is to support the university's academic and research vision," said Don Hickey, vice-president (Facilities and Operations). "It is a supportive function to meet the strategic goals that the university has identified.

"In my mind we're very important, but we're not core, so we need to respond to the needs."

The first job of the U of A's vice-president (Facilities and Operations) is to provide a link between the administration and the board of governors on all matters concerning university infrastructure and related services.

The facilities and operations portfolio is broad, covering everything from the university's ancillary services, planning and project delivery, to utilities, operations, maintenance of the university and the Office of Sustainability.

Hickey explains that ancillary services – which include ONEcard, parking services, hospitality services, real estate and commercial property management and residence services—is unique within the institution because each of its individual parts are charged with acting as business units responsible for their own bottom line.

Hickey also oversees the university's real estate acquisitions and dispositions, as well as commercial leases of university space and spaces outside the institution that the university may lease. This division ties into the more typical part of Facilities and Operations: capital projects.

"We have to keep a business head on our shoulders, in that we have to be efficient, effective and economic in the services that we provide," said Hickey, who is an engineering graduate of the U of A. "We owe it to the academy to do that. If we are not efficient, we're taking money away from the academy itself. We have to make sure that what we do, we are doing it as efficiently as we can."

This business unit mentality also exists for the utilities, operations and maintenance side of Hickey's portfolio. Beyond ensuring that sustainable operations, trades and buildings and grounds maintenance are as economic as possible, Facilities and Operations is charged with the operation of a break-even public utility that services the university as well as the University of Alberta Hospital, the Cross Cancer Institute, the Jubilee Auditorium and other smaller entities.

"I don't pretend that we build buildings on spec and then say, 'Who would like to occupy them?' They get built because someone has identified a need," said Hickey, who spent more than 30 years in the consulting industry designing buildings and managing projects. "Even in tough times we have units that are growing because of research growth and enrolment. The space needs still are significant, and we have aging infrastructure."

Hickey says the U of A is by far the oldest institution in the province, representing 25 per cent of the area of post-secondary in the province, and 40 per cent or more of the deferred maintenance for post secondary.

"A lot of our world divides into short-term and long-term thinking," he said, referencing a planning function that is detailed in the university's Capital Pan, which is authored by his office and is a response to the U of A's academic and institutional research plans. "When dealing in real estate or capital projects, we're always looking at what the needs might be in five or 20 years and how we might meet those needs."

On the other end, Hickey says his department is responsible for the ongoing operations that need to be addressed every day. "Rooms and washrooms need to be cleaned every day, the grounds need to be maintained, so we have that unique combination of the necessity for long-term planning and the routine, day-to-day operations that probably impact people the most."

With the U of A's size and many complexities, Hickey says finding creative solutions to ensure seamless operation of the university infrastructure creates a challenging and gratifying work environment, especially when solutions to multiple pressures are identified.

"A lot of our world exists in a domino effect," said Hickey. "You push a balloon in and it's going to pop out somewhere else. When you don't have enough space in total, you're always looking to how you're going to accommodate current needs, not just projected needs.

"It means we need good people and people of like minds who understand that we don't control our lives necessarily."

the open door

Expiration of Access Copyright license looms

Carl Amrhein
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

The license under which Access Copyright authorizes various uses of printed material for Canadian universities will expire Dec. 31. The Access Copyright license as it exists cannot be renewed. This will have implications for students and faculty in terms of using required print copyright materials in the classroom/lab and in the libraries.

Under the soon expiring Access Copyright license, post-secondary institutions pay a flat fee per student of less than $4 each, plus a royalty on each page copied, for the use of certain copyrighted material. Access Copyright is proposing a new agreement to the Copyright Board of Canada that includes a flat rate of $45 per head for full-time equivalent students. This would increase the U of A's cost by more than $1 million annually.

But cost isn't the only issue. Access Copyright offered to extend the current agreement only if universities agreed to be retroactively bound by a future Copyright Board decision on not only the tariffs but also on proposed new license conditions. This is unacceptable. We are genuinely concerned about some of the potential restrictions in the proposed license that may threaten our ability to use copyrighted resources in the classroom and may impinge upon other existing laws, practices or rights.

The U of A is actively supporting the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada's work in Ottawa to protect and assert the post-secondary sector's needs and rights regarding the Access Copyright issue. The universities, via AUCC, have also commented upon pending revisions to the federal copyright laws.

The owners of copyright are taking a strong stand against those of us who are users of copyrighted material. We want to protect the integrity of the academy as we pursue our mission to instruct students effectively. We are working to develop policies and practices that will ensure appropriate compliance but will recognize the requirements of our instructors and our students.

While the university works through a longer-term strategy for using copyrighted materials, an interim process is required to get the university through the winter and spring terms. The procedures were developed to minimize the impact to faculty and students while ensuring appropriate compliance.

Effective Jan. 1, 2011, commercial textbooks required for a course may not be placed on reserve in the library or other resource room. Other required printed materials, such as journal articles, essays or chapters, may be placed on reserve for students to read in the library. With the university's protection through Access Copyright set to expire with the agreement, these interim changes are in place to manage risk while serving the community.

There are no changes to the use of supplemental or recommended materials.

Any materials prepared for course packs or class handouts of copyrighted material will be covered under the current agreement as long as they are copied prior to Jan. 1. There may be heavier than normal volume this year, so faculty are encouraged to get materials in as soon as possible.

If handouts of copyrighted material are not photocopied before Jan. 1, copyright clearance will need to be obtained before they can be distributed. The University Copyright Office is ready to assist and answer questions.

The university's copyright website is www.copyright.ualberta.ca/. To ask additional questions, call Margaret Law (492-9849) or Cindy Paul (492-0151), or you can email copyright@ualberta.ca.

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University of Alberta ~ Faculty of Education

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For more information on registration for Jr. Kindergarten, visit our website, email, or call 780.492.7341.

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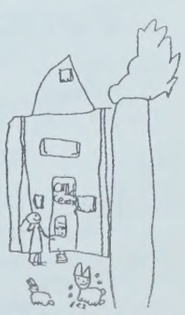
Kindergarten to Grade 6 registration for 2011/2012 begins **March 1, 2011**.

For more information on Kindergarten to Grade 6, visit our website, email, or call Garneau at 780.433.1390.

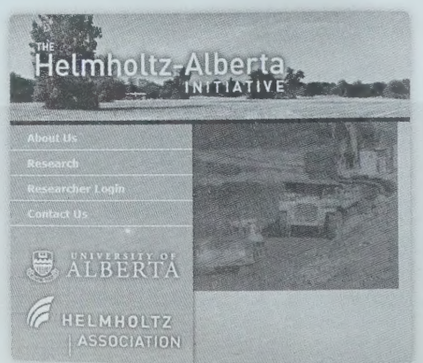


www.childstudycentre.ualberta.ca
childstudycentre@ualberta.ca

surf city

A major partnership between the U of A and a network of German research centres is now a lot more visible with the launch of a new website (www.helmholtzalberta.ca), informing the public on the initiative's progress and allowing researchers to collaborate online. While research to develop sustainability technologies for the oilsands has been going full bore for months now, the official site of the Helmholtz Alberta Initiative went live Nov. 25, celebrating "an equal partnership between the German and U of A sides," says Stefan Scherer, managing director of Helmholtz Alberta Initiative at the U of A.

A series of 12 videos featuring team co-leaders in the six currently active research themes—bitumen and lignite upgrading, carbon capture, carbon storage, geothermal energy, sustainable oilsands water management and mine site reclamation and landscape development—will appear roughly once every month on the site.



Tendency towards obesity starts with preschoolers

Jane Hurly

When it comes to understanding where tendencies to being overweight or obese develop, you have to begin with the very young, says behavioural scientist John Spence.

His research, the first of its kind to look at North American kids, and published in the *International Journal of Pediatric Obesity*, examined four- and five-year olds' avoidance or approach behaviours to food and their relationship with body weight.

John Spence

What he's found may help to unlock the causes of obesity and what we can do to prevent a condition in Canada where, alarmingly, 26 per cent of 2 to 17 year olds are overweight or obese.

Spence and his team recruited 1,730 Canadian children into the study—an equal mix of boys and girls, and four and five year-olds. Kids were classified according to body weight status, and parents were asked to complete the UK-developed Children's Eating Behaviour Questionnaire, which has been used in European studies to establish the relationship between food behaviours and body weight in children.

Parents were given a list of statements relating to how their children responded to food—for example, "My child loves food," or "My child eats more when worried"—and asked if or to what extent the behaviour occurred.

The results of the two-year study were in line with what Spence had anticipated. He found significant differences between the children in different weight status groups for food responsiveness, emotional over-eating, enjoyment of food, satiety responsiveness, slowness in eating, and food fussiness.

"It does appear that children, not surprisingly, who are demonstrating approach behaviours to food (eating when upset, or eating when bored, for example) are going to be more overweight, whereas children who are demonstrating avoidance behaviours (such as fussy or slow eating) are more likely to be underweight. But the issue now is, how do children develop these approach or avoidance tendencies to food?" says Spence.

"This model suggests that to some extent this is influenced by the household environment where the parents may be rewarding children for certain types of behaviours. It would suggest that there is some dynamic in the household that is leading children to be more approach or avoidant in relation to food."

Spence says the results, which show clear linear relationships across the body-weight groups, bode well for his follow-up research, now in progress.

"If we are seeing associations between where children live and play, if there are associations between the environment and the weight status of the child then we have to try and figure out how that environment influences that child," says Spence.

"Is it exposure to food or prevention or promotion of physical activity? Is it the way they interact with their food as shaped by their environment? This is more of a household variable than one would expect, so is the child being rewarded or punished in relation to their food and is that then related to their weight status? Is there education we can be providing to parents?

"These have potential intervention implications, because if we can identify this and understand what the causes of approach and avoidance behaviours are, we can identify what we can intervene on."

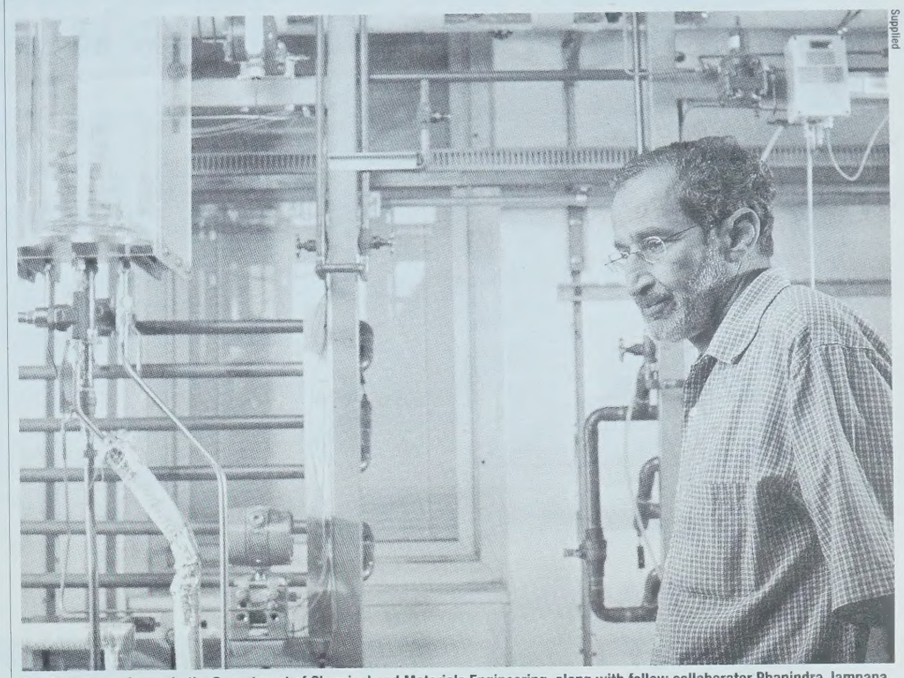
Spence has begun a longitudinal study following the children from the original study who are now seven and eight year-olds. This time researchers will probe deeper and with confidence, knowing their work is grounded in a solid foundation of findings consistent with European studies that have used the CBEQ to establish these associations between food behaviours and body weight.

"Now we'll be situating (our research) in a larger framework with more variables, and we'll be looking to see how some of these work together," says Spence. "We'll look to see if, in children who are more approach-oriented to food, we are seeing more food being consumed, and are they consuming some of the 'bad' food."

Spence says he expects governments to step in with policies once researchers know more. "Now that we've established the associations, we need to know how to change things, and if we change things how do we implement those in policy and affect populations."

> "But the issue now is, how do children develop these approach or avoidance tendencies to food?"
>
> John Spence

Oilsands innovation keeps oil out of tailings ponds



Supplied

Sirish Shah, professor in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, along with fellow collaborator Phanindra Jampana, developed an image sensor to help reduce environmental impacts while improving bitumen recovery and revenues.

Richard Cairney

Using digital cameras and a sophisticated algorithm, Faculty of Engineering researchers have improved the efficiency of an oilsands process and lessened environmental impacts.

The team developed an image sensor that helps reduce the environmental impacts while improving bitumen recovery and revenues by cutting the amount of bitumen inadvertently flowing into tailings ponds by 50 per cent.

Sirish Shah, a professor in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, and Phanindra Jampana, who at the time of the research was working on his PhD under Shah's supervision, pioneered the new approach in collaboration with Suncor Energy Inc. and Edmonton-based software firm Matrikon Inc.

"This issue was thrown to us as a challenge," said Shah, who holds the NSERC-Matrikon-Suncor-iCORE Senior Industrial Research Chair in Computer Process Control.

Bitumen mined from the oilsands is placed into huge vessels called separation cells and mixed with hot water. The bitumen and air form a frothy layer that floats on the surface of the water. Skimmers remove the froth to process into oil; the sands and clays, in the bottom layers that form the "middlings and tailings," sink and are sent to the tailings pond.

"Suncor had a problem measuring the interface between bitumen froth and the middlings in their separation tanks. They'd tried so many different sensors and measuring devices, but none of these sensors had worked consistently and reliably with the result that regulation of the interface level at optimum levels was not possible."

Capturing the froth is key to full recovery of the oil and protecting the environment, because any froth missed will end up in a tailings pond as extraction waste. However, the large volumes of bitumen, sand and water roil in the separation cell, making the surface turbulent and difficult to measure and separate.

Typically, companies use sensors to guide operators, who manually control pumps to keep the surface as calm as possible. With the new technique, cameras monitor the tank through portholes, focusing on the interface between the foam and water. The information is fed into a computer that controls the pump. The whole process is driven by a complex algorithm to adjust the pumps in real time.

The new technology resulted in recovery of an additional 1,600 barrels of bitumen per day from one tank at Suncor. That's 50-per-cent less bitumen going into tailings ponds. And at $50 per barrel, it means approximately $30 million in additional annual revenue to Suncor. Because of the success of the technology, similar sensors have been implemented for use in two other separation tanks.

Shah and Jampana won a prestigious ASTech Award from the Alberta Science and Technology Leadership Foundation in the category for Innovation in Oilsands Research sponsored by Syncrude Canada Ltd Nov. 12.

Pharmacists in primary-care settings benefit patients

Bev Betkowski

Though most of us are used to seeing our pharmacists behind the counter at our neighbourhood drugstores, Scot Simpson sees a more dynamic place for them—right in doctors' offices.

Simpson, an associate professor in the University of Alberta's Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, has just published a study showing that adding pharmacists to the primary-care team in family medicine clinics may help patients with chronic diseases such as diabetes better manage associated risk factors, such as high blood pressure.

The findings hold potential for improving health care at the patient level and lowering total costs to the medical system.

"Pharmacists can play a more active role in primary care and community clinics," said Simpson. "We've already been actively collaborating on health-care teams for years in hospitals, so it makes sense to also join the primary care teams in medical clinics."

The study, conducted in five Edmonton clinics, showed that the blood pressure of patients with Type 2 diabetes dropped significantly when pharmacists were included in the on-site clinical examination and consulting process. Among 153 patients whose hypertension was inadequately controlled at the beginning of the study, the 82 who had advice from a pharmacist as part of a medical team were more likely to reach blood-pressure treatment targets recommended by the Canadian Diabetes Association.

As well, the study showed that with input from pharmacists, the predicted 10-year risk of cardiovascular disease for patients with Type 2 diabetes will drop by three per cent.

Placing pharmacists in the doctor's office instead of in a more traditional role at the neighbourhood pharmacy allows for a more collaborative frontline approach to medication management in primary care, Simpson said.

"The doctors, nurses and pharmacists can directly discuss issues specific to any one patient, and by doing so, have the best outcome for the patient," Simpson said. "The team effort really allows for more customized care of the patient."

> "We've already been actively collaborating on health-care teams for years in hospitals, so it makes sense to also join the primary care teams in medical clinics."
>
> Scott Simpson

High blood pressure and other cardiovascular risk factors are common in people with diabetes, so effective management of medications is key to reducing the risk of heart attack and stroke, Simpson added.

The results were reported online recently by the journal *Diabetes Care*.

A little off the top

Steven Heipel

U of A Provost Carl Amrhein provided one of the more than 50 heads that were shaved during the seventh annual Engineering Head Shave Nov. 26. Amrhein and Students' Union President Nick Dehod raised almost $10,000 for cancer patients.

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Anxiety & panic attacks/Insomnia
Sinusitis & Rhinitis/Allergies

Patient testimonials:

1) *"Nearly half of our staff has been to your clinic." - Staff member at the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry*
2) *"You helped me lose 35 pounds and my blood pressure has dropped significantly. My neck and shoulder pain, which I've had for more than 20 years, is also gone." - Senior staff member at the U of A*
3) *"In two months of treatment, Dr. He has helped alleviate pain from sciatica, disc bulges and inoperable spinal cysts." - Senior staff member at the U of A*

Researchers celebrate a possible glimpse into the secrets of the Big Bang

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta particle physics researchers are celebrating a possible breakthrough in divining the secrets of the Big Bang. The big break came at the Large Hadron Collider near Geneva, Switzerland.

"I had just returned from the LHC when word came that we got a glimpse of one of the first steps in the eventual creation of the universe," said U of A physicist Roger Moore.

Moore was part of the LHC's international research team that crashed lead ions together creating a super heated gas called a quark-gluon plasma. The plasma is believed to contain the basic building blocks of matter. Everything in the visible universe, including all life, is made of matter. The Big Bang was a sudden release of energy credited with creating matter—the stars, the universe, us.

Moore says it all happened in a trillionth of a second following the Big Bang.

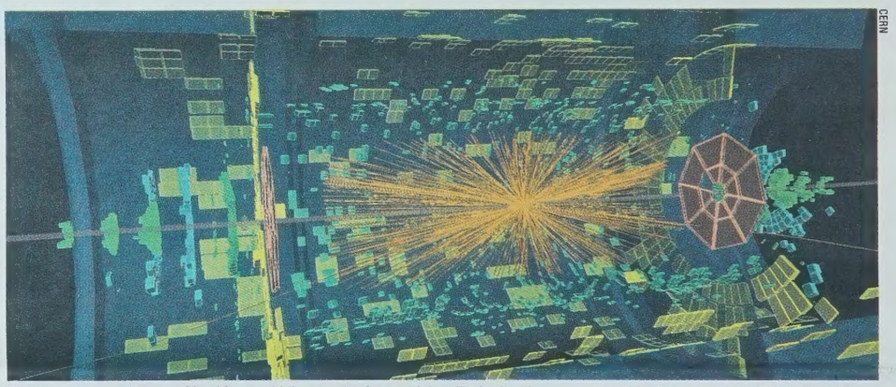
"When a gas is superheated it becomes plasma, like the sun, and when plasma is further heated to trillions of degrees it becomes a quark-gluon plasma," said Moore. "If further analysis of the LHC data proves a quark-gluon plasma was created, we've discovered a new state of matter."

Moore adds he believes quark-gluon plasma was one of the first stages in the evolution of matter following the Big Bang. "Positively identifying and understanding the role of quark-gluon plasma is a very important step."

Moore believes that finding possible new evidence of a quark-gluon plasma shows that LHC research is moving forward. Moore's U of A colleagues Jim Pinfold and Doug Gingrich were also involved in the design of the ATLAS detector.

"The LHC has had some setbacks, but this breakthrough is good news and in the New Year, when the collider is operating at full power, we'll learn even more about how we (life) got here."

Evidence of quark-gluon plasma was gathered from the collision of lead ions sent racing around the LHC, which is a circular tube, 27 kilometres in circumference, buried underground on the border between Switzerland and France. Debris from the crashing ions was picked up by a specialized detector. Moore, Pinfold and Gingrich were part of the design and construction team for the detector that was given the name Atlas.



CERN

This image shows beams of lead ions colliding, scattering particles. Their signals are measured by the cylindrical ATLAS detector.

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Researchers look to limit spread of HIV by battling depression

Bev Betkowski

Treating depression may be a crucial step in stopping risky sexual behavior and even the spread of HIV, says University of Alberta researcher Ian Colman.

A strong link between depression and subsequent risky sexual behaviours such as improper condom use, transactional sex and relationship violence among young people in South Africa has been discovered by Colman and Mzikazi Nduna, researchers in the U of A's School of Public Health.

Ian Colman

"The findings of this study could give doctors an important but overlooked tool in dealing with the HIV epidemic not only in South Africa, but across the globe," said Colman, an assistant professor of epidemiology. "Psychological factors are often neglected in HIV research, and as researchers, we need to deepen our understanding of the role of mental health in the HIV epidemic," Colman said.

The researchers felt it was important to investigate links between depression and HIV, especially in low- to middle-income nations like South Africa, where psychological distress is thought to be common. The results of their study, conducted in Eastern Cape Province, confirmed that depression is widespread among young South Africans, and could be making a significant contribution towards the HIV epidemic there.

As well, Colman believes that depression could be contributing to risky sexual behaviours around the world, and that preventing or treating it may reduce the global burden of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV and AIDS.

The study encompassed 1,002 females and 976 males between the ages of 15 and 26, who were surveyed twice, once in 2002 and again a year later.

The research found that 21.1 per cent of women and 13.6 per cent of men reported symptoms of depression. Depressed women were more likely to be in controlling relationships, to have a partner who was several years older, and to have experienced sexual violence. Men with depressed symptoms were more likely to have had three or more lifetime partners, experienced transactional sex and committed rape.

All of these behaviours are considered to put young women and men at risk for sexually transmitted HIV.

Based on their findings, Colman and Nduna, who was a visiting professor at the U of A during the study, recommend routine screening for prevention, diagnosis and management of depression among youth as a means to reducing risky sexual behaviours and, in turn, HIV risk in South Africa.

"Access to mental-health services for young people remains elusive as resources are directed to more pressing conditions such as teenage pregnancy and HIV prevention," Nduna said. The researchers see potential for blending depression prevention into current sexual and reproductive health clinic services.

"Clearly we could achieve better success in our prevention efforts if they are delivered to clients who are in a healthy state of psychological well-being," added Colman. "People who aren't feeling good about themselves are less likely to be concerned about important preventative health measures."

Colman hopes the findings will ultimately help slow the spread of HIV by offering young people mental health treatment that will ease their depression and subsequently stem destructive sexual risk-taking.

The research appears in the current issue of the *Journal of the International Aids Society*.

> "The findings of this study could give doctors an important but overlooked tool in dealing the HIV epidemic."
>
> Ian Colman

teaching & learning, learning & teaching

Engineering design course has environmentally friendly exam

Richard Cairney

As the automotive industry explores alternative-energy vehicles, mechanical engineering students faced the same challenge in a design course with a unique exam.

Students in Marc Secanell's Mechanical Design course were given the task of designing and building a robotic car and then competing against other student teams to see who built the most energy-efficient vehicle. Students have access to advice and training from the department's technicians and professors.

"It has been my favourite course this semester because you get to apply what you've learned," said student Janelle Romanchuk. "I was talking to my friends about it and they were saying 'You get to just go into the shop and make stuff?' It's pretty cool. We're doing things I've never done before."

Working in teams, the students were required to build electric vehicles and complete tests to determine energy use in "city" and "highway" driving conditions on an indoor track.

Roberta Hunt, who operated her team's car in the exam, did a lot of the calculations in the design stage but the team learned that in some instances building something according to plan isn't always possible. The team needed to tweak their steering design.

"This course gives you an idea of what goes on beyond design, in the manufacturing stage," said Hunt, who steered the team's vehicle to a respectable placing.

Other teams had the same challenge. Daryn Curilla, whose team's vehicle held a solid lead in the 'highway' portion of the exam, said the group he worked with ran into a brick wall when it came time to build the vehicle they had planned.

"We had a problem with our gear box—the computer model worked great but it was impossible to build."

In both cases teams adapted and improvised and overcame the unforeseen challenges.

"This teaches students the trial and error of design," said Secanell. "It's an interesting course because they still don't have all the fundamentals of engineering but they do get hands-on experience."

supplied

Marc Secanell (left) watches one of his students race a robotic car.

staff spotlight

Chem tech a catalyst for department happiness

Michael Brown

While Marcel Munroe works daily with catalysts, being called one is a first for the organic chemistry store technician.

In being selected for a University of Alberta Support Staff Recognition Award handed out Nov. 15, Munroe was described by his colleagues as a "catalyst for a healthier, happier department," a calming influence, accommodating and positive.

Marcel Munroe

Munroe is quick to deflect the praise, explaining his demeanor at work is strictly a byproduct of working in such a great environment

"I like the energy at the U of A," said Munroe, who has worked in the Department of Chemistry for three years. "It is always high energy when school's in, it's high energy when school's out and the energy is always changing with new students and new faces to see.

"The store group—there's seven of us —is pretty tight knit, and everybody is really friendly. It is a great group to work for and I couldn't ask for better that's for sure."

Munroe says his primary role is to set up all the solutions and get together all the chemicals that the organic chemistry undergraduate labs need. "We have to make the solutions, dispense various things into sample vials for each student and then, during their lab, if they break any glass or have a problem with their (solutions), the students can come to us so they're not stuck unable to finish the experiment."

Monroe says a chemistry lab can be a stressful place for undergraduates as their grades depend on their accuracy. This means when glass breaks or a chemical spills, students who come to him looking for help can be pretty upset.

"To make it so they understand it is not a big deal, instead of a buzzer to call us to the store window, we have a rubber chicken," said Monroe. "They come, they're upset and they have to squeeze this rubber chicken, which inevitably draws a few laughs. I think it lightens the mood and shows the student that it is not the end of the world."

U of A's Annual Recognition Awards

Staff Awards

- Pak Chow: Lab technician with renewable resources
- Delphi Kozmeniuk: Lister Residence Administrator
- Judith Odhuno-Were: International admissions supervisor

APO Awards

- Trevor Buckle: Faculty of Arts, Undergraduate Student Services
- Mary Paul: SAO, Office of the Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)

Librarian award

- Marlene Dorgan: U of A Libraries

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The best begets the best according to public-health Killam winner

Andrea Lauder & Michael Brown

Having three Canada Research Chairs lecturing during the same class doesn't happen all the time, but if it is going to happen, it's going to happen at the University of Alberta.

"The School of Public Health has three Canada Research Chairs, and all three of us were up in front of a class of PhDs talking about research methods in general. They just soak it all up, but I don't think the students realized the benefit of that," said Jeff Johnson, professor in the School of Public Health and CRC in diabetes health outcomes. "The U of A is definitely one of the leading research universities in Canada, so it definitely has research-expertise exposure to draw on."

It's that continual exposure to the cutting edge of research that Johnson affords his students, along with an enviable research resume that helped him win a 2010 Killam Annual Professorship. The award is based on scholarly activities of the applicant that include teaching, research, and service to the community.

Johnson's program of research in diabetes health outcomes is known globally thanks in part to his knowing more than 180 peer-reviewed journal articles to date. He continues to attract ongoing competitive research funding from agencies, including the Canadian Institutes for Health Research, Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions and the Canadian Diabetes Association.

Jeff Johnson

Johnson is internationally recognized for his work in health outcomes research, particularly in diabetes surveillance and the assessment of the quality and efficiency of health care for type-2 diabetes. While the high-achieving research side of Johnson is well documented, there is also a down-to-earth side that may be less well known to some. This side is most apparent in his deep connection to teaching and mentoring students.

"When I started grad school I really wanted to be a teacher," said Johnson, whose father is an academic and, he says, one of his key mentors. "I'm very proud of my mentoring record with students, and I find teaching really fulfilling."

Johnson teaches primarily graduate students and says it is easy to bring research into the classroom because that is where their heads are at.

"I don't talk specifically about my research, just my experiences of being a researcher, and how they have to have an open mind," he said. "That's so rewarding because PhD students are just so keen."

Johnson began teaching at the University of Saskatchewan, lecturing on diabetes for the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. Now, through his research group, the Alliance for Canadian Health Outcomes Research in Diabetes, Johnson continues to build upon diabetes research success and is creating a supportive work environment for the students he mentors.

"The real benefit of having leading researchers teaching students at any level is just being on the front edge and exposing students to the newest methods or theories or the latest literature," he said. "It keeps the student sharp and keeps faculty sharp."

> "[Having leading researchers teaching students at any level] keeps the students sharp and keeps the faculty sharp."
>
> Jeff Johnson

Johnson's dedication to the student experience has meant that all of the students he has supervised (seven master's students, seven PhD students and two post-doctoral fellows) have received external trainee scholarships or fellowships.

Samantha Bowker, a recent graduate, had the opportunity to work with Johnson before he supervised her during her PhD studies. "I don't know if it was necessarily easier to go from a working relationship to the student/supervisor relationship," said Bowker. "In fact, I think it was a bit harder. Jeff has high expectations when you are a student with him."

However, with the high expectations also came great rewards, remembers Bowker. "We are really given the most supportive and rich research environment during our studies. I really felt that the opportunities provided to me in my PhD were outstanding, and I am very thankful for having had those opportunities. I learned a lot from Jeff and we get along really well on projects. He is a very good mentor who is always approachable."

Johnson's students speak highly of him and his teaching style, consistently giving him glowing reviews. "I have high expectations of my students, but I am not unrealistic," says Johnson. "I like to be organized with my courses and make myself available to meet with students who are looking for deeper understanding or feedback.

"Contrary to what people think, I do occasionally say 'no' to things," says Johnson. "But, when it comes to student requests, I rarely refuse to help."

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2011-2012 Killam Annual Professorships

Les Fiducies Killam Trusts

Applications are invited for the 2011-2012 Killam Annual Professorships. All regular, continuing, full-time academic faculty members who are not on leave during 2011-2012 are eligible to apply. Deans, Department Chairs and other senior University administrators with personnel responsibilities shall not normally be eligible for Killam Annual Professorships. Associate Deans and Associate Department Chairs are eligible providing they do not have personnel responsibilities. Up to eight Killam Annual Professors will be selected by a subcommittee of the Killam Trusts Committee; no more than two Professorships shall be awarded to staff members in any one faculty in any given year. Each Killam Annual Professor shall be presented with a $3,500 prize and a commemorative plaque. The duties of Killam Annual Professors shall not be changed from those that they regularly perform as academic staff members.

The primary criterion for selection shall be a record of outstanding scholarship and teaching over three or more years as evidenced by any or all of research publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students, and courses taught. The secondary criterion shall be a record of substantial contributions to the community outside the University, above and beyond what is usually expected of a professor, as evidenced by community involvement normally directly linked to the applicant's University responsibilities and activities. However, other forms of community involvement will be considered, especially, but not exclusively, where the applicant's discipline does not readily lend itself to making community contributions, and also where the university's reputation is clearly enhanced by the applicant's contributions.

Awards are tenable for twelve months commencing July 1, 2011. The completed application must be received at the Office of the Vice-President (Research), 1-20 University Hall, by 4:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 18, 2011. The awardees shall be announced by early May, and they will be formally recognized at the Killam Luncheon in the fall of 2011.

Applications and further details are available on the home page of the Vice-President (Research) at http://www.research.ualberta.ca.

Please contact Annette Kujda, administrative officer, Office of the Vice-President (Research) at extension 2-8342 or email **annette.kujda@ualberta.ca** if you have any questions.

Parkland Institute shines light on public-policy issues

Jamie Hanlon

Canada, in general, and specifically, Alberta, continues to evolve in many ways: socially, economically, politically. However, what happens when this change is not always to the benefit of the people? Who will speak for or to citizens about this change and the need for public understanding and engagement on these important issues?

Fundamentally, those questions could be answered by the work undertaken by the University of Alberta's Parkland Institute. Gordon Laxer, co-founder and director of the institute, says the catalyst for the establishment back in 1996 was an absence of any credible political opposition following the 1993 provincial election. He says the sitting Liberals at that time seemed to have abandoned their traditional left-of-centre policies for an almost ultra-conservative direction for the province.

"There was a one-party or group-think mentality (in the legislature)," he said. "We thought there should be a diversity of voices out there. People were really afraid to say any criticism of government or anything that was against government policy. We thought that was a very unhealthy situation in a democracy."

A non-partisan body within the university's Faculty of Arts, the institute is a network of researchers whose goal is to examine policies and issues of international, national and provincial importance. This goal feeds a second, and arguably more important goal, says Laxer, public education.

"We want to do well-researched public policy reports that would open up debate on a whole range of issues," said Laxer. "You need a debate whenever you've got a group of people in power."

The institute uses a variety of means to disseminate its research to the public, including reports, books and conferences. This year's 14th annual fall conference happening last weekend was entitled Rewriting a Country: Towards a Just and Peaceful society. True to its goals, the institute looked at how Canada's values and its role, both international and domestic, have changed.

> "People were really afraid to say any criticism of government or anything that was against government policy. We thought that was a very unhealthy situation in a democracy."
>
> Gordon Laxer

Ricardo Acuna, the institute's executive director, says conferences are one means by which these goals can be accomplished in order to "popularize the research and give it a very practical context." Regardless of means, the aim of the institute's public education mission is the same.

"The ultimate hope is engaged citizenry – for people to come away with an understanding of their need to be engaged, because there is a gap between what I value as a Canadian and what is being done on my behalf," said Acuna. "As a citizen, I need to play a role in trying to bring those policies and those actions closer to my values, whether that involves a letter to the editor, talking to MPs or, in a few cases, protests and campaigns."

In terms of current issues that affect Canadians, Laxer says a changing image of Canada's vision and values is incongruous with the wishes of ordinary Canadians. Citing examples of everything from climate change to the war in Afghanistan to changes to the citizenship act, Laxer says the elite in Canada and the federal government have been moving the country in a direction many Canadians don't seem to want to go.

Laxer notes that there is a disconnect between a seemingly elitist view of what Canada is or should be and the wishes of ordinary Canadians.

"We very much believe in the public-education side," he said. "There are citizens out there who need to be informed on the issues."

The conference is one means by which the institute aims to spark public-policy debates; Laxer says that getting the reports and ideas to the public is another. He said that the institute sends reports to sitting governments as a means of influencing political will.

He says government policy indicates that policymakers are listening closely (or at least paying attention) to what the institute's people are saying. Laxer says reports on issues such as oil and gas royalty rates or the privatization of Epcor seem to have been catalysts for changes in government plans at different levels. Given the size of the institute, he says those results are admirable.

"I think in many ways we punch above our weight," said Laxer.

Maintaining a public presence and profile, engaging discussions, opening dialogue and giving a voice to Albertans' concerns on public-policy issues is ultimately the raison d'être of the Parkland Institute, says Laxer. Being a centre of reports and papers that serve little but to line a résumé is not what a public-policy institute is about, he says.

"You should be out there hammering a debate, and the best ideas should win," said Laxer. "If some other institute or other groups come out with some other ideas, well, let's have a debate on this thing.

"It's not publish or perish, it's go public or perish—publicize or perish."

Software that saves lives

Nadia Anderson

In an emergency, timing is everything. For Darkhorse Analytics—a spinoff from the Alberta School of Business' Centre for Excellence in Operations—its recent license with TEC Edmonton provides exclusive access to the programming code needed to analyze and optimize data for emergency deployment.

The license also gives Darkhorse the first right to negotiate any future intellectual property discoveries from Armann Ingolfsson, director of the CEO, in the area of emergency services.

"It is very rewarding to see the results of our academic work being used in practice, to help emergency service planners," Ingolfsson said.

The CEO applies emerging techniques to complex and quantitative problems such as facility location, network design, vehicle routing, production planning, or inventory management. Through their research and analysis, businesses can save thousands or even millions of dollars.

Dan Haight, a former CEO employee and a founding partner of Darkhorse, said the software gives emergency responders greater independence, which decreases response times.

> "Our goal is to mitigate risk. In this line of work that risk means loss of life."
>
> Dan Haight

"What's great about our software is that it's user friendly: you don't need an analyst to run it," Haight said. "We work with emergency professionals to develop planning tools to diagnose how to react. Our goal is to mitigate risk. In this line of work that risk means loss of life."

Darkhorse has worked with municipalities across Canada, from Edmonton to the Maritimes.

"As a finalist in the TEC Venture-Prize Business Plan competition, and now a technology licensee, Darkhorse Analytics is a perfect example of what commercialization is all about, moving technologies into the marketplace," said Chris Lumb, CEO of TEC Edmonton. "This type of technology is the new age of emergency planning, replacing the modeling of the 60s and 70s that most municipalities still use today."

TEC Edmonton's commercialization journey with Darkhorse continues as Shaheel Hooda, TEC Executive-in-Residence, helps the company take its business to new markets.

Through business coaching and developing a marketing strategy to accelerate the growth of the company as well as enter the United States, Hooda,a former software CEO and Harvard MBA, has previously advised Fortune 500 companies.

"With Shaheel's business experience, he challenges us to look at our five-year plan rather than the next six months," Haight said. "Balancing our needs today with our long-term objectives is definitely a challenge for a startup, but with the help of TEC Edmonton, we're on the right path."

TLEF to help shift medical education away from traditional teaching methods

Ken Mathewson

As educational techniques evolve, the traditional chalkboard and textbook methods of teaching are rapidly becoming a thing of the past. Luckily, educators within the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry are taking steps to ensure that the University of Alberta maintains its innovative edge.

Shelley Ross

Shelley Ross, along with colleagues Mike Donoff, Paul Humphries and collaborator Cheryl Poth, recently received a Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund grant for their work in implementing and analyzing the Competency Based Achievement System within the Family Medicine Residency Program.

The program attempts to shift the learning environment from the traditional "one size fits all" approach, to an individualized feedback-based, learner-driven system that allows students to focus their efforts on areas where they need the most improvement.

"There's a worldwide movement to shift medical education from the time-based system to a competency based system," said Ross. "Our goal is to give students the tools for guided self-assessment and reflect on their learning in order to identify where there are gaps so they can fill them in."

The system ensures that students are kept perpetually informed of their strengths and weaknesses through constant, referable communication. Residents are given feedback in the form of field notes, which come predominantly from their preceptors but can be issued by anyone involved in interaction with the resident. Field notes are available to students for analysis, which helps them assess where they need improvement.

"What tends to happen all too often is that residents are not made aware of their weaknesses until near the end of their program," said Ross. "With the CBAS format, advisors meet with our residents every four months. If residents are not showing progress then we stop, look back and create a learning plan targeting the areas that they need to focus on."

Ross added that the TLEF grant has provided the team with the means to hire a grad student to collect data on a consistent basis.

"That really does a lot in terms of validating our work, which is really helpful," she said. "Really, it's all about improving the learning of our residents and helping them to become better doctors."

> "There's a worldwide movement to shift medical education from the time-based system to a competency based system."
>
> Shelley Ross

Student caller hits development milestone

supplied

Hadi Saba mans the phones with Sean Price looking on.

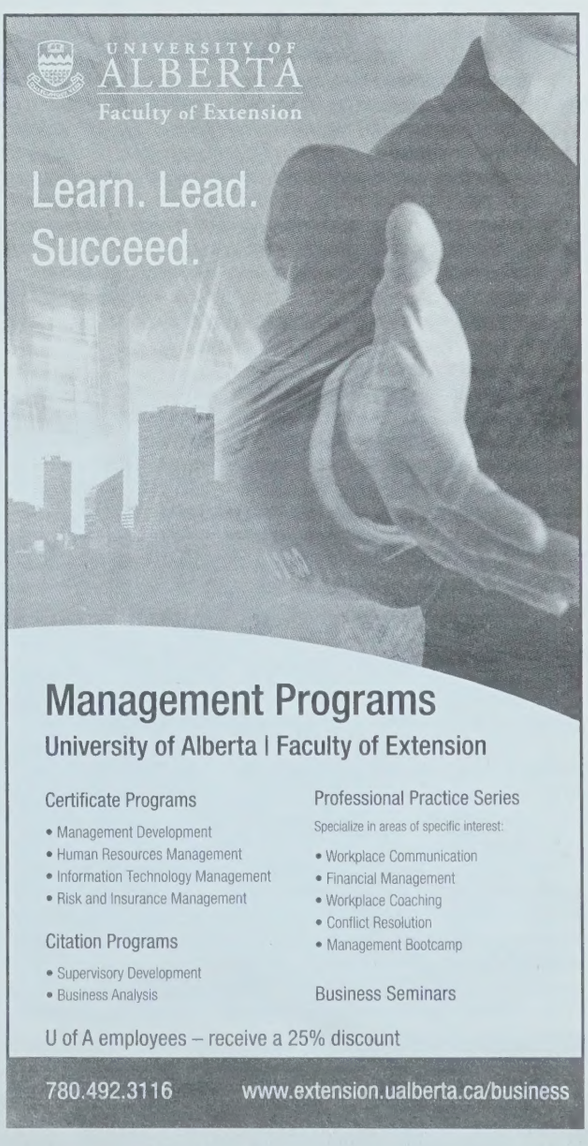
Angel Cousineau

Hadi Saba has a lot going on. Yet he has still found time to raise $200,000 in pledges to support his fellow U of A students through the Student Calling Program.

A PhD student in computing science, Hadi works part-time at the Student Calling Program at the University of Alberta. The program calls tens of thousands of donors and alumni of the U of A to keep them updated, invite them to events and request donations for all sorts of programs and initiatives across campus.

When the associate director of Development Services contacted Hadi to let him know that he was about to reach a milestone never achieved before in the SCP, Hadi simply replied, "I was just doing my job." It is this level of humility, coupled with a strong sense of work that makes Hadi a powerhouse.

Last week Hadi reached the milestone in just two years, and received a letter from U of A President Indira Samarasekera congratulating him on his achievement. Sean Price, associate vice-president, Alumni Affairs, also presented Hadi with a pair of tickets for an upcoming Oilers game, which were donated by MBNA Canada.



news [shorts]

folio *presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.*

New facilities for Camrose after-degree program

Following a number of years with good but less-than-ideal facilities, the Faculty of Nursing now has a state-of-the-art dedicated facility in Camrose for the After Degree Program offered there.

The new facilities, which were used starting in September, include smart classrooms, a state-of-the-art high-fidelity simulation suite, a nursing skills lab equipped with medium fidelity simulation and a patient-care ready environment modeled after what students experience in a hospital facility.

According to Dean Anita Molzahn, creating a permanent dedicated space for the program in Camrose is an example of the Faculty of Nursing's commitment to being part of a community that has welcomed our students and instructors.

"Our After Degree nursing program has forged some interesting relationships that are characteristic of a rural setting. Some examples: the local Hutterite community manufactures their nursing scrubs, snow cleaning has been generously done by anonymous passers-by, and seniors in a local retirement residence have stepped up to be assessed by our nursing students in their NURS 304 course, because they believe it is the duty of these seniors to educate the younger generation."

New nano professor earns international praise

Zubin Jacob, who joined the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in September, has won the Dimitris N. Chorafas Foundation award for extraordinary scientific achievement in his PhD.

While working on his PhD (initially at Princeton and then at Purdue), Jacob designed a new device called the hyper lens, which provides a new way to optically see objects at the nano scale—smaller than a billionth of a meter. Technology already existed to capture images of nano-sized objects, but the images are created by physically detecting an object's shape with a nano-scale probe, and is time consuming. Jacob designed the hyper lens, a lens that gets around the limitations of light diffraction that had prevented optical imaging of nano-scale objects.

"We have microscopes and I thought, 'Why don't we have nanoscopes?'" said Zubin, whose field of expertise is meta-materials. "Diffraction limits always prevented that, but using new materials I came up with a design for the hyper lens. It helps us to see objects that are smaller than the wave length of light."

These objects are so small that light interacts with them differently, hampering our ability to see them optically, under any degree of magnification. Zubin's design solves that problem and, in turn, solves another: being able to instantly view a nanoscale object gives researchers the ability to see biological organisms in a snapshot.

"One of the main applications of this will be in biological imaging, where you have organisms in that size range and you can get an image of them in real time."

Researcher honoured for pioneering cancer treatments

Evangelos Michelakis, professor in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry has been named the Canadians for Health Research Researcher of the Month.

Michelakis, a cardiologist, drew international headlines when he discovered that a relatively non-toxic inexpensive pharmaceutical, dichloroacetate, could be used to treat some types of cancer. However, the real importance of his discovery was that it pointed toward a new way of treating cancer--Michelakis was able to alter the metabolism of tumours by targeting the mitochondria, the energy-producing units in cells.

Michelakis specializes in treating patients with pulmonary hypertension, a deadly condition caused by excessive growth of cells in the walls of arteries in the lungs, which can result in shortness of breath, heart failure and premature death. He has made other important discoveries, including another use for Viagra. In 2003, his team was the first to show that Viagra, normally used to treat erectile dysfunction, is beneficial for patients with pulmonary hypertension.

This year, Michelakis published the early results of a Phase I-II clinical trial of DCA on patients with glioblastoma (a deadly brain tumour), proving that his observations in targeting mitochondria in animal tumours can be directly applied in patients. A few months later he published definitive evidence that mitochondria can be targeted in pulmonary hypertension in a manner identical to cancer.

"It's always great to get the recognition," said Michelakis, "but it also reminds me that being a part of this prestigious list of researchers is as important to me as being a part of my own list of legends, the bright students and colleagues that surround me, making this work happen and, more importantly, make me a better scientist and a better person.

Inventor of revolutionary wound dressing wins Salk

Robert Burrell, chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering who revolutionized wound treatment, has been awarded the prestigious Jonas Salk Award.

Robert Burrell, who holds the Canada Research Chair in Nanostructured Biomaterials, invented Acticoat, a silver-based wound dressing in 1995 while working for Westaim Corporation's Nucryst Pharmaceuticals. The dressing is regarded as one of the most important advances in wound-care history, using nanocrystalline silver technology that speeds healing while fighting off infections.

Acticoat dressings improve the quality of life and save health-care costs for patients with chronic wounds like diabetic and arterial leg ulcers, and help prevent chronic disability and morbidity in millions of people worldwide.

Burrell says winning the award—named after the man who developed the life-saving polio vaccine in 1955—is humbling.

"Jonas Salk was an interesting guy in that he was an medical doctor who didn't practice medicine—he was one of the first doctors who went the route of research, and we are all beneficiaries of his work," said Burrell.

The award is presented annually to a Canadian scientist, physician or researcher who has made a new and outstanding contribution in science or medicine to prevent, alleviate or eliminate a physical disability.

Business grads start Life in Reverse

Supplied photos

Sarah Ligon

While his business school classmates walked across the stage at Jubilee Auditorium last month to collect their diplomas, Shaun Brandt, '10 BCom, 24, and his friend, Cam Service, '09 BCom, 23, had already embarked on their first career move: an 8,000-kilometre journey from Alberta to Nicaragua, where they will begin living the sort of life most people only dream about for retirement.

The two Edmontonians hit the road with a trailer full of equipment and a videographer in tow to begin filming *Life in Reverse*, a documentary for the fledgling Internet television network, Third Storm, that began airing on Nov. 15. The 24-episode show will follow the duo as they drive down to San Juan del Sur, a low-key fishing village in the Nicaraguan rain forest and home to some of the best surfing in the world.

Once there, they'll begin constructing an eco-home, which will be the homebase for Honesty Clothing—the small ethical clothing line they founded while still students at the U of A—and search for a local textile manufacturer that meets their company's strict code of conduct.

They'll also do a lot of surfing, although they're complete novices. And they don't speak Spanish and have no building experience, not so much as a childhood treehouse.

No matter. The concept of the show—at the heart of Brandt and Service's world view—is the belief that there's no need to wait until retirement to move to paradise and start living one's dreams. The pair hope to build a business they're passionate about while enjoying each day to the fullest—and they hope that the trials and tribulations they're bound to encounter along the way will keep viewers tuning in for more.

Shaun Brandt and Cam Service

It may seem like an odd career move for two successful business grads. While most of their classmates will be building up their business wardrobes and climbing the corporate ladder, Brandt and Service will be hitting the surf in board shorts, touring textile manufacturers and hammering away at their beachfront cabin. But the pair insists that they are, in fact, making excellent use of their business degrees.

"The truth is, everything that we've done to make this project work has been taken directly from what we learned in school," says Service. "How to write a proposal to advertisers or licensing music for the show—even just the mindset of taking the idea of a trip and a surf house and turning that into a business concept. I wouldn't have been able to comprehend that without my business degree."

What started out as a small, self-financed project has grown to a half-million dollar enterprise, with companies large and small across North America interested in sponsorship. However, Brandt and Service were the first to invest money and their own sweat equity into their dream. For months they've been logging 80- and 90-hour weeks, working three jobs to get this project off the ground.

"Every dollar I make goes toward this," says Service. "It's a lot of hard work and believing in the idea."

And ultimately it was that idea that sold the network on this unlikely pair and their far-fetched dream.

But what possessed two land-locked Albertans to want to stake their life savings—and a year of their lives—on surfing, a sport with which they've had so little experience?

"We've both been involved in other board sports for a long time. We snowboard and skateboard and longboard," says Brandt. "I think that every Canadian that's been on a board wants to be on a surfboard."

"And once you've done it, it's the most addictive thing in the world," adds Service.

"If I wasn't so white and didn't burn so easily, I would be out there for 12 hours a day," says Brandt. "You can either be constantly working to get the next wave or you can just sit there and enjoy the scenery. Either way it's fun."

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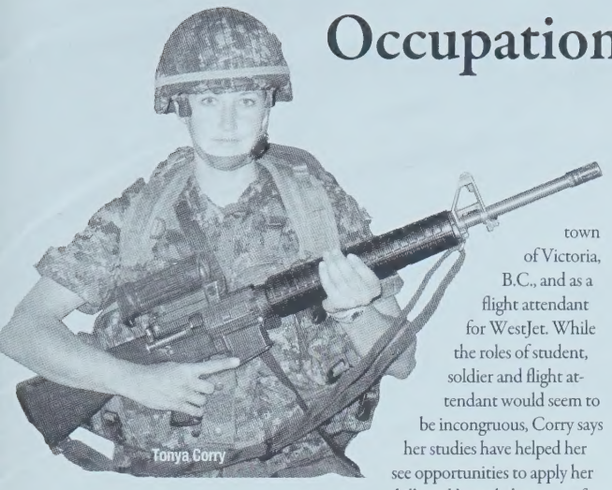
Occupational therapy master's grad soldiers on


Tonya Corry

Jamie Hanlon

By the look of things, it would seem that the Canadian Forces' "there's no life like it" recruiting slogan has stuck with Tonya Corry since her childhood.

Corry crossed the stage Nov. 18 to receive her master's degree in occupational therapy, which she obtained while working two very different jobs: as a medic with a reserve unit in her hometown of Victoria, B.C., and as a flight attendant for WestJet. While the roles of student, soldier and flight attendant would seem to be incongruous, Corry says her studies have helped her see opportunities to apply her skills and knowledge more effectively in all three of those evocations.

But how—or why—does one take on such a heavy workload when faced with a demanding program like occupational therapy? According to Corry, it all comes down to making choices. And since deciding to embark on her graduate studies in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, she has made more than a few choices that were very different than the one she originally made.

A love of travel convinced Corry to take on the airline-attendant role after her undergraduate studies were complete. She says that she had already applied to the U of A program but was convinced she would not get in the first time. When she did, she had to decide whether to give up working for WestJet or continue her studies.

"I thought, 'you only live once; you may as well enjoy it now.' So I declined my acceptance to university and flew with WestJet for a year," said Corry. "I re-applied to the university when I was able to go part time with WestJet."

Not one to let the grass grow under her feet, Corry also enlisted with 11 Field Ambulance as a means to explore a possible career in medicine. She re-applied to the U of A and was on her basic training course when she got the news from the department the second time: she was rejected.

"I joked that was the only time I cried at basic training—when I couldn't get into the program," said Corry. "I sent an email to the administrator asking what I could do to improve my application. I got an email a week later saying they had received some extra funding so I was now accepted."

While Corry's self-described emotional rollercoaster happily ended, the mental challenge of juggling the demands of her chosen worlds was her next test. She worked with her unit when she made her way home for visits or field work and continued to book her weekend schedules with WestJet. She says both employers were extremely accommodating and very flexible with allowing her to continue her "careers" while completing her master's.

But while jetting off to various destinations may sound like fun, Corry says sometimes her studies overlapped into opportune moments of her travel gig.

"I was in St. Lucia once and I was on a group meeting because we had a project due in about a week," said Corry. "For me, it wasn't about being in St. Lucia; it was, 'I have to get this project done.'"

Don't think for a second, though, that she has slowed down since she completed her studies. In fact, her tempo has increased to four jobs now that she has completed her degree. Aside from continuing to fly with WestJet (where she is also building a case for how the airline could strategically employ their own occupational therapist), Corry is working as an occupational therapist in both public and private practice.

She is also moving her way towards a more important role with the military. Corry, whose graduate research focused on the effectiveness of occupational therapy in treating military members with operational stress and traumatic brain injuries, is awaiting her commission to an officer's rank to become a health-care administrator, where she hopes to promote occupational therapy as a viable military trade.

"I'm promoting occupational therapy, attending conferences, using my research paper as evidence for why these interventions and why our trade is so effective," she said. "When occupational therapy comes in (as a military career), I will know the military health-care system and be an effective occupational therapist to military members.

"It's a different job, but I now have a new focus and it's a way to use my degree within the military and help enable change."

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Jan. 14, 2011

The John H. Meier, Jr. Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction Collection. This exhibition presents examples of first editions of all the titles that have won Canada's prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction from its inception to the present. Noon–4:30 p.m. Rutherford Library.

Until Dec. 17

(sir)rogates. "(sir)rogates" is an exhibition of new paintings by local artist, and University of Alberta professor, Julian Forrest. This playful yet poignant look at masculinity and issues that arise in migratory oil-rich centres, like Edmonton, offers viewers a chance to contemplate Alberta's continually evolving landscape. Harcourt House Gallery, 11205-112 street, 3rd floor.

Dec. 3

Golden Bears and Panda's Basketball versus University of Regina Cougars, Golden Bears to follow. 6 p.m. Main Gym. For the full athletics schedule, go to http://www.bears.ualberta.ca.

Dec. 4

MACH 3 Trio Voce. 8 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

Dec. 5

Darren Jacklin. Darren Jacklin is a world-class professional speaker, corporate trainer, best-selling author and television celebrity. 12:30–5:30 p.m. 150 TELUS Centre. For more information, go to www.ualberta.ca/~esa106/default.htm.

Dec. 6

Ho-Ho-Ho-liday Community Sale and Live Music for United Way. Holiday community sale, coffee, hot chocolate and baked goods in the Atrium at Enterprise Square. Live Music by Shaun Bosch. All proceeds go to the United Way. 11:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Dec. 7

Grant Administration and Reconciliation. This seminar will be of interest to all researchers and personnel involved in the administration of research grants on campus. Our guest speakers will share their experience in grant administration. This workshop is open to all U of A faculty, administrators, students and staff as well as AHS staff. Please register via the link below. 9:30–11:00 a.m. Room 2-117 Clinical Sciences. http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=4623.

CIHR Cafe Scientifique – Planning Ahead: The Preferred Place for My Final Days. Many terminally-ill people want to stay at home in their final days, but this can be difficult to achieve. Come out for an intimate discussion with research and clinical experts on this sensitive topic. Appetizers and refreshments will be 7–9 p.m. Saskatchewan Room Faculty Club.

Dec. 8

Coffee Consumption and Metabolic Disease Risk – Potential Mechanisms. The Alberta Institute for Human Nutrition presents Jane Shearer, professor in the Faculty of Kinesiology and Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Calgary. Noon–1 p.m. 1-040 (Oborowsky Degner Seminar Hall) Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation.

Dec. 9 & 10

Second Annual Translational Neuroscience Symposium. Focus on of this symposium will be neurodegeneration. This year's symposium will also celebrate the grand opening of the Centre for Prion and Protein Folding Diseases at the University of Alberta.1–6 p.m. TELUS Centre.

Dec. 10

Fist Call for Abstracts to the 3rd Annual Dr. Olive Yonge Teaching and Learning Scholarship Day. The Dr. Olive Yonge Teaching/Learning Scholarship Review Committee welcomes abstract submissions from educators/researchers with a focus on teaching and learning scholarship in higher education. Lister Centre. http://www.nursing.ualberta.ca/en/TeachingLearning/OliveYongeDay.aspx

Dec. 12

Silent Night. 3 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

Dec. 13

Fostering Reflective Capacity Through Interactive Reflective Writing. Hedy Wald will use a combination of didactic and interactive learning to explore the concept of fostering reflective capacity through interactive reflective writing within an interdisciplinary context. 11 a.m.–noon. Room 150 TELUS Centre.

Savage Limbo

Supplied

Jamie Cavanagh as Tony Aronica and Tiffany Ayalik as Linda Rotunda in the U of A Studio Theatre production of "Savage in Limbo," which plays at the Timms Centre for the Arts through to Dec. 11.

laurels

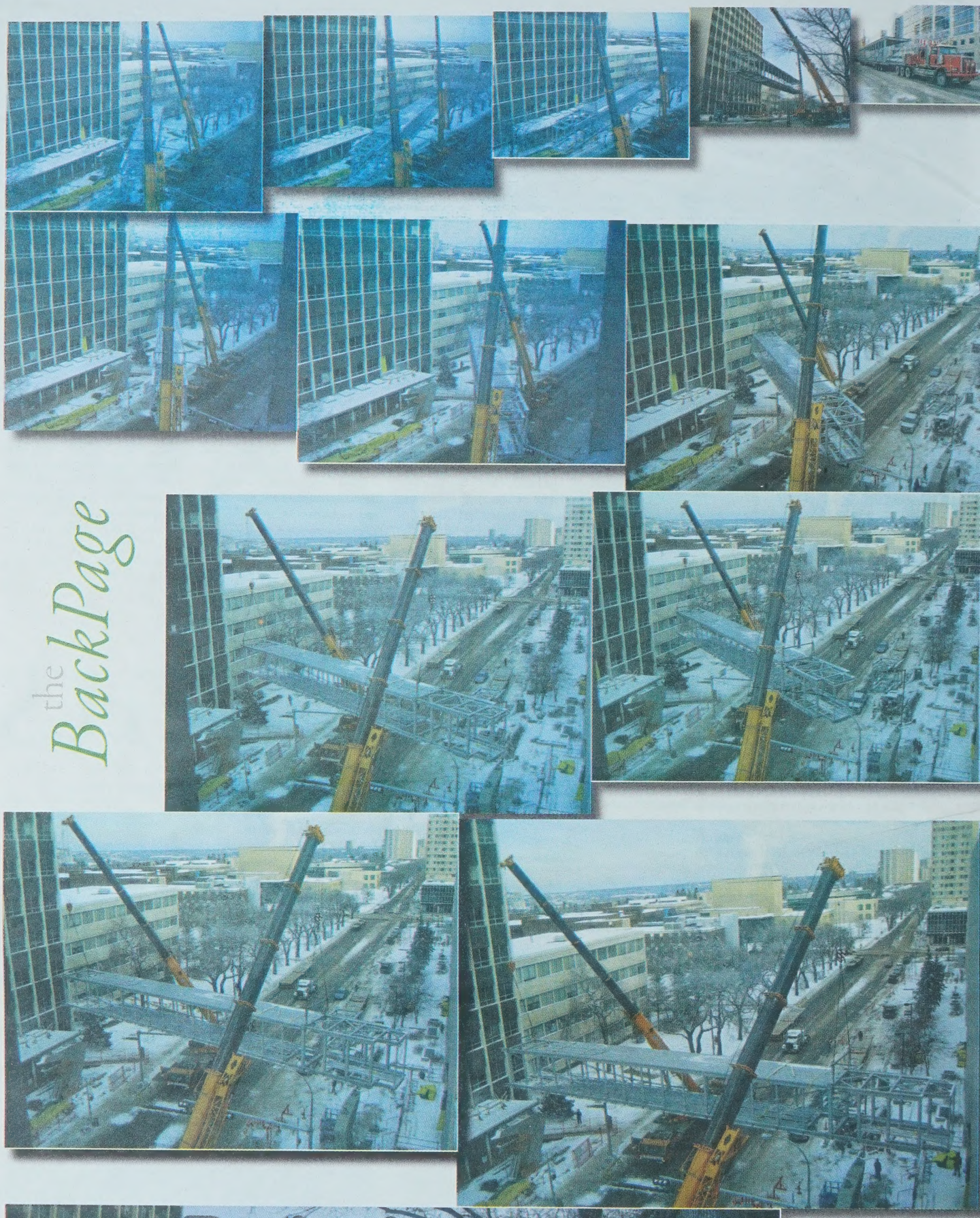
Alberta Construction magazine has named the **Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Sciences** as one of the top Alberta institutional construction projects completed in 2010.

Stan Boutin, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, received the William Rowan Distinguished Service Award from the Alberta Chapter of the Wildlife Society.

Timothy Caulfield, professor in the Faculty of Law and the School of Public Health, and research director of the Health Law Institute, has received the Till and McCulloch Award from the Stem Cell Network. The honour recognizes the year's most influential peer-reviews article by a Canadian stem cell researcher.

Charlie Ashad, professor in the Department of Renewable Resources, received the Soil Science Distinguished Service Award from the Soil Society of America.

Gino Fallone, professor in the Department of Psychology, received the inaugural Westbury Legacy Award from the Alberta Centre for Child, Family and Community Research for his work as Community-University Partnership research director.



Putting in a Pedway

On Saturday, Nov. 20, a pedway connection between the Education South and Heritage Medical Research Centre buildings was erected. The pedway steel structure was fabricated and delivered in segments to the site where it was assembled on the ground. With one single crane lift, the 47-metre-long structure was put into place. The work was conducted by PCL, who are the prime contractors for the project. The glass windows will be installed, and all work is scheduled to be completed for March 2011. (photos supplied)

folio
University of Alberta

Page 2
Augustana gets its man
Allen Berger leaves home in Maine to take Augustana's top job

Page 4
Gone Google
U of A signs up with Google Apps

Page 8
Killam winner finds a home
Atmospheric scientist finds space at the U of A

Volume 48 Issue 8 | December 17, 2010 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

U of A receives Canada's largest university land gift

Michel Proulx

It's the gift of a lifetime. Alumni Edwin and Ruth Mattheis donated their 12,300-acre ranch to the University of Alberta Dec. 7. The gift ensures the land will forever remain a working ranch and will provide the university with outstanding research and teaching opportunities in rangeland and pasture management.

In light of the historic gift, the university is establishing the Mattheis Chair in Rangeland Ecology and Management.

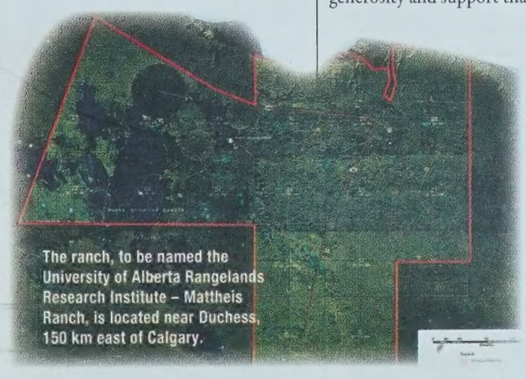
The ranch, to be named the University of Alberta Rangelands Research Institute – Mattheis Ranch, is located near Duchess, 150 kilometres east of Calgary. It adds to the agricultural research infrastructure of the university, placing it squarely in a leadership position in rangeland ecology and management research.

In accepting the gift, President Indira Samarasekera pointed out that its impact on scientific research and learning is what is most important.

"No other university in Canada has access to a natural research lab of this kind—indeed only a very few universities in all of North America have the rangeland resource that the U of A now has," she said.

"Research will be conducted on a wide variety of rangeland ecology and management issues including grasslands ecology, carbon sequestration and storage, the impact of climate change on mixed-grass prairie, land reclamation and water optimization."

Story continued on page 3



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Quite a catch

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The Paleontology Museum recently unveiled its newest permanent exhibit, featuring a cast of a dunkleosteus skull—a super-predator that dominated the Devonian seas 360 million years ago—creating a commanding entrance to the museum. For full story, see page 9.

Mactaggart donation has university 'Soaring'

Folio Staff

Edmonton's Sandy and Cécile Mactaggart are builders; they have quite literally been instrumental in building the city of Edmonton. But they have also built community, cultural understanding and in the case of the University of Alberta, they have been key in building the institution into one of the world's most respected and leading centres of research, teaching and learning.

And on Dec. 13, the remarkable generosity and support that the Mactaggarts have shown the U of A continued with the announcement that the Mactaggarts are giving their family home, "Soaring," its surrounding grounds along the North Saskatchewan River, and many of the home's beautiful contents, to the university.

That gift represents just a part of a broader legacy of giving to the U of A, which has marked decades of support from the Mactaggarts. Their giving—along with the resulting matching funds their donations have generated from government—equal an unprecedented $100 million for the university, says President Indira Samarasekera.

"Sandy and Cécile Mactaggart are among this university's greatest friends, supporters and benefactors. Indeed, they have made an indelible mark on post-secondary education in Canada as they inspire us all to strive for the advancement of education, knowledge and culture. The sheer generosity of giving the university their home leaves us humbled. The Mactaggarts have simply transformed us, and their relationship with the university is a dynamic force as the U of A continues to grow," Samarasekera said.

The Mactaggarts' gifts to, and support for, the U of A date back several decades. Sandy has served on the university's board, including holding the position of chair, and held the position of chancellor of the university. The couple have endowed the Mactaggart Writing Award and are regular contributors to several scholarship funds and research projects in areas of study as diverse as stuttering and family business.

In 2005 the Mactaggarts donated a stunning collection of Chinese artifacts to the university; a gift which was matched in cash by the Alberta government, leading to the establishment of the U of A's China Institute. The institute and the Mactaggart Collection continue to be leading forces in promoting research, institutional partnerships, cultural exchanges and understanding.

> "We have always thought that giving back is a personal responsibility of any engaged citizen."
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Sandy Mactaggart says giving is an important part of building community.

Story continued on page 2

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Celebrate the Season
with an elegant reception at Alumni House

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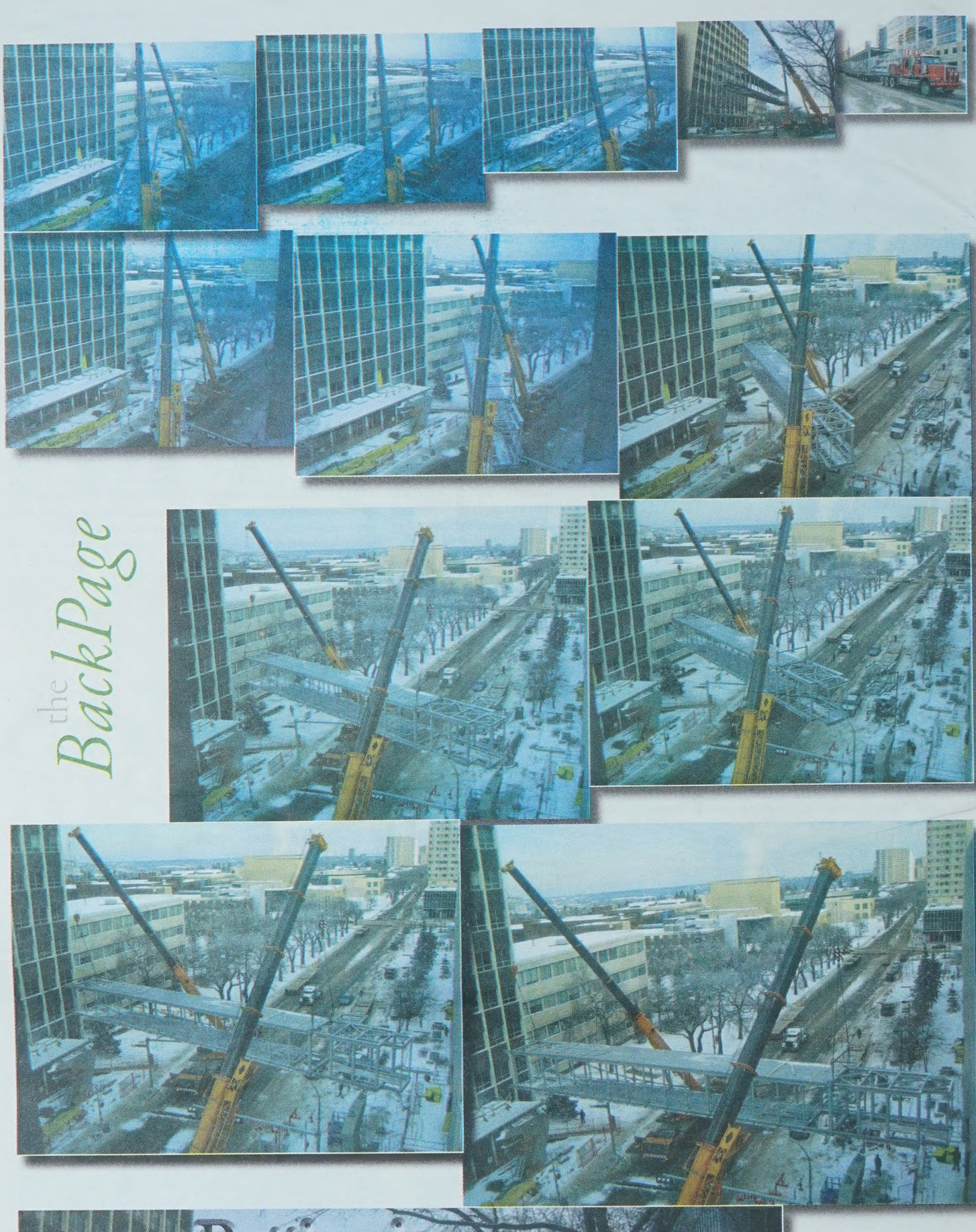

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folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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The University of Alberta maintains a database of all alumni. This database is used to send you news about the U of A, including folio and *New Trail*, invitations to special events and requests for support. On Sept. 1, 1999, post-secondary institutions were required to comply with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation of the province of Alberta. In accordance with this legislation, please respond to one of the following options:

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- ❑ Remove my name from the folio list.

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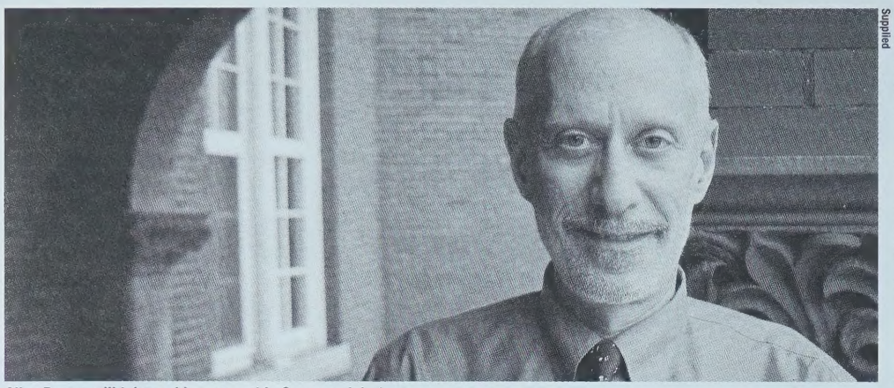
U of A appoints new dean for Augustana Campus



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Allen Berger will take up his new post in Camrose July 1.

Geoff McMaster

A seasoned post-secondary administrator from the State of Maine has been named dean of Augustana Faculty and executive officer of Augustana Campus. Coming to the University of Alberta from the University of Maine at Farmington, Maine's public liberal arts college, where he serves as provost and vice-president, academic, Allen Berger will take up his new post in Camrose July 1.

"Highly praised as an ardent advocate for the liberal arts and academic rigour, [Berger] made the choice to move from a career in private liberal arts colleges to public liberal arts institutions, out of his desire that education of the whole person be accessible to those wanting to pursue it," says U of A provost and vice-president, academic, Carl Amrhein.

"He understands Augustana's mission and goals, and he shares these personally. He is devoted to the student experience and to the support of faculty and staff. He prizes Augustana's focus on undergraduate teaching and believes that a residence-based campus is the best place for this focus."

At the University of Maine, Berger led initiatives that revamped and improved programs and processes, raising the profile of the institution for quality of education and student experience. He also served as program director for the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges, an American council of which Augustana is the sole Canadian member.

Berger began his career as a cultural anthropologist, examining a small, village population in the highland interior of Sardinia, and the tension between "communitarian traditions and stresses created by a combination of capitalist market penetration and state penetration into what was at the time a very remote region." He says he gained his first administrative experience advocating for his discipline in the design of curriculum, as the sole anthropologist in a sociology department.

A full-time administrator since the mid-'90s, he has served in the cabinets of five presidents at three post-secondary institutions. What has driven him during his 15 years of post-secondary leadership, he says, is "the opportunity to galvanize a faculty and a staff around a vision to enhance quality and excellence . . . the ability to be an agent of change for the good of all."

At the same time, Berger insisted that "top down forms of leadership are not a good match for academic institutions," adding "that it would be presumptuous of me to announce before even arriving at Augustana that I had a vision. Visions are developed collaboratively and certainly require good listening skills from leadership."

"My wife and I love Maine, but we're drawn to Augustana's mission, and think it's a wonderful opportunity," he says. "I'm a full believer that the highest quality of education is to be found at residential liberal arts colleges . . . and in the public sector.

"Clearly at Augustana there's an interest in academic rigour, in enhancing opportunities for undergraduate research, in tackling difficult but meaningful educational reform, and in internationalization as well as the development of rural regions. I've spent my entire academic career in small towns; the City of Camrose seems a lot like places we've lived, only in a Canadian setting."

Berger praised the close relationship between Camrose and Augustana and the "strong ethic of community service that appears to inform many Augustana programs."

In announcing Berger's appointment, Amrhein reserved a few words for outgoing dean Roger Epp, who has been at the helm of Augustana since 2002 and taught there since 1990.

"Roger successfully led Augustana through years of a merge into the University of Alberta family," said Amrhein. "And further, he greatly contributed to the advancement of the Augustana Campus in the university community and in the provincial, national and international communities."

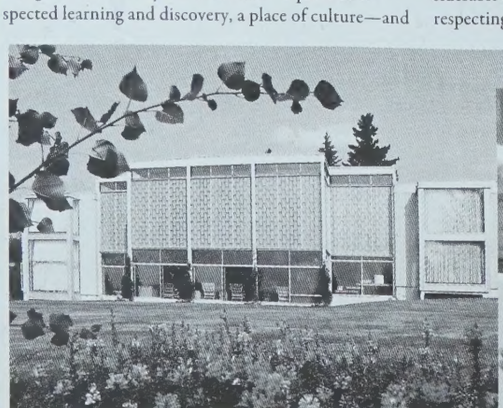
Mactaggart donations surpass the $100-million mark

continued from page 1

"We have always thought that giving back is a personal responsibility of any engaged citizen, an obligation to belonging to the larger community, without which no one could be successful," said Mactaggart.

Giving of time and money to the university is an obvious way to support the broader community, he says. "Cécile and I were always convinced that the University of Alberta could become the internationally recognized university it has become—a place of respected learning and discovery, a place of culture—and in doing so help build the city of Edmonton itself. So we turned to making sure that long-term vision became a reality, and today's gift is another way we hope we can continue to help build Edmonton and the University of Alberta."

The university has not determined how the Mactaggarts' latest gift will ultimately be used, but the goal is to ensure the gift's value is maximized to bring real, considerable and long-term benefit to the university while respecting and acknowledging the Mactaggarts' legacy.



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The Mactaggart family donated their home (above) and surrounding land to the U of A, pushing their remarkable legacy of giving past $100 million. (Right) Sandy Mactaggart and U of A President Indira Samarasekera.

Inspiration is the best gift

Indira Samarasekera
President and vice-chancellor

For many of us, giving lies at the heart of the holiday season, and the U of A has been fortunate to receive three major gifts in recent weeks. The first was GlaxoSmithKline's $5 million donation to establish the GlaxoSmithKline Virology Research Support Endowment Fund, followed by Edwin and Ruth Mattheis' gift of their 12,000-acre family ranch for the advancement of rangeland research and sustainability. Early this week, Sandy and Cécile Mactaggart gave the university their Edmonton home, Soaring, its surrounding property and many of it valued contents.

At the events celebrating these gifts, I could see that there was nothing routine about these particular gifts. Paul Lucas, president and CEO of GSK, has been supporting the work of Lorne Tyrrell for more than two decades. The Mattheis are both alumni of the U of A, graduating in the late 1950s, and the Mactaggarts are among the U of A's greatest friends and benefactors.

All three donors spoke at the gift announcements with great emotion about how they were entrusting the University of Alberta with far more a gift—they were entrusting us with their hopes for the future. Our donors give to us because they share with us a core belief that research and education can truly advance society to greater understanding and a better future.

In the case of these particular gifts, the donors see in the U of A a group of researchers and teachers devoted to pursuing the questions, ideas, and solutions that will lead to new vaccines and cures, to sustainable management and conservation of a unique prairie ecological system, and to the advancement of artistic, historical and cultural understanding. Edwin and Ruth Mattheis and Sandy and Cécile Mactaggart have entrusted us with their beloved home—it is difficult to imagine a stronger indication of their support for the work and ideals of the university.

> "All three donors spoke with great emotion about how they were entrusting the U of A with far more than a gift—they were entrusting us with their hopes for the future."
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My thanks to all of you—the faculty and staff of the U of A—for what you do to inspire donors to support the university and the work that is done here. Your efforts reach far beyond the borders of campus and resonate with the hopes and aspirations of many individuals in the communities we serve. These three gifts clearly demonstrate that the work that we do to advance and disseminate knowledge matters. Thank you for your many contributions.

New PharmD degree is the right Rx for health care in Alberta

Jamie Hanlon

A longstanding prescription for the University of Alberta's Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Science has been filled.

The U of A's board of governors approved the creation of a doctor of pharmacy program (PharmD), a program that has been on the books within the faculty since 1993. The new degree, which will be initially offered in September 2012 (pending provincial government approval), will be a 14-month program combining classroom and practice-based learning in either team-based, community/ambulatory or acute-care environments.

"The degree will allow the students to have a very broad view of pharmacy practice and all the possibilities," said Terri Schindel, associate dean of undergraduate programs for the faculty."We're also hoping that pharmacists will want a rural experience where teams come together in the community in different ways."

> "Patient focus is really key in this new degree."
>
> Terri Schindel

The PharmD is a logical extension of the pharmacy's bachelor program, the degree that will remain the conditional standard for entry to professional practice in the province. However, the new program's focus will shift the professional focus from the drugs to the more patient-based direction that their profession is moving in.

"This degree will help people see and focus on patient care," said Schindel. "Patient focus is really key in this new degree."

The degree is another first of sorts for the faculty and for the province. While there are a few PharmD degrees in other parts of Canada, their role and structure is different from the proposed U of A model, says Schindel. Based on surveys conducted by the faculty, current undergrads and practising pharmacists and other pharmacy schools are overwhelming supportive of the proposed program. Currently, those who wish to take a doctor of pharmacy program must travel to institutions in places such as Colorado or Idaho to do so.

The first cohort will be comprised of 13 recent graduates who elect to continue directly with the new program before undertaking their careers. Following the inaugural launch, the class will become a mix of recent grads and seasoned pharmaceutical practitioners. Pharmacy Dean James Kehrer says this group will have the "full scope" of practice that will allow them to take full advantage of their professional abilities as a health-care provider—one that now, in Alberta, covers being a prescribing drug authority and administering vaccinations.

"It's very exciting for us to have the degree approved by the board of governors," said Kehrer. "It's important to get a number of these people out there that are going to be the leaders of delivering pharmaceutical care in the hospital setting, and we believe, hold an important role in the community setting where the pharmacist is the most accessible health-care provider that we have, but one that has been underutilized.

"Now, we have a mechanism by which we can have more highly-skilled practitioners available to the public."

U of A scientist named one of Canada's most powerful women

Wanda Vivequin

Margaret Ann Armour has been named one of Canada's top 100 most powerful women.

The Faculty of Science's associate dean, diversity, was presented with the award at a gala event in Toronto Nov. 29.

Margaret Ann Armour

The Women's Executive Network, which releases its list of powerful women annually, received more than 300 nominations from across Canada and pared the submissions to 100 women it believes have accomplished something truly exemplary.

Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Awards recognizes the country's highest achieving female leaders in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors.

"Our Top 100 community is a powerful group of women who are at the top of their game," said Pamela Jeffery, founder of the Women's Executive Network. "Top 100 is a mark of their success and how they have supported their communities, companies and organizations."

"I am honoured to be recognized in this way, joining a remarkable group of women leaders who are making a difference in Canadian life," says Armour.

For over a quarter of a century, Armour has been one of Canada's premier women of science, volunteering tirelessly to encourage girls and young women to consider careers in the sciences and engineering. She has done this through the creation and nurturing of a series of initiatives under an umbrella organization called WISEST, or Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science and Technology. Through this program and related activities, Armour is a recognized leader in raising national awareness among school-aged girls, educators, parents and employers of the importance of encouraging women to enter science and engineering.

Her commitment began in 1981, when Armour was one of 20 leaders who studied the low number of women in science. A year later, WISEST was formed. In an era when women represented only 30 per cent of undergraduate science and engineering students and the number of female faculty was 10 per cent in science and two per cent in engineering, Armour played a pivotal role as a mentor and a significant role model for young women.

> "I am honoured to be recognized in this way, joining a remarkable group of women leaders who are making a difference in Canadian life."
>
> Margaret Ann Armour

Her dedication continues. Armour is currently the founding president of the board of the Canadian Centre for Women in Science, Engineering, Trades and Technology, the WinSETT Centre. The centre was officially launched at the CCWESTT conference in Winnipeg on May 14, 2010.

For her work and advocacy in improving the situation of Canadian women in science and technology, Armour was named to the Order of Canada in 2006. She also received a Governor General's Award commemorating the Persons Case, a landmark decision in 1929 that declared women to be persons under the British North America Act. Armour's dedication to education and her passion for science was also recognized in 2007 when she was named a champion of public education by the Learning Partnership. Later that year she also received the Alberta Science and Technology Leadership Awards Foundation Special Award.

As associate dean of science, diversity Armour has developed and implemented Project Catalyst, as series of actions to increase the percentage of women in faculty positions in the Faculty of Science. Although more than 50 per cent of undergraduate students in the sciences in universities across Canada are female, less than 20 per cent of the faculty members are women, and this percentage has changed only slightly over the past 10 years. She has been invited to the University of Western Ontario, the University of Ottawa and the University of British Columbia to talk about the initiative and UWO and UBC have instituted similar programs.

University closure reminder

The university closure during this holiday season will be extended by two days to account for the last of the negotiated furlough days. The university will be closed from Friday, Dec. 24 to Tuesday, Jan. 4. The university will be open for business and classes resume on Jan. 5.

Largest land gift

continued from page 1

A teaching and extension program will take place, added John Kennelly, dean of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences.

"Various aspects of applied ecology, grazing management, livestock husbandry and production economics for the mixed-grass prairie region will be examined," he said.

The ranch is composed primarily of rangeland and about 700 acres of cultivated land. It is a microcosm of southern Alberta and has a diversity of ecosystems and habitats, a rich variety of plant life, different riparian areas along the Red Deer River and the Matziwin Creek, and several created wetlands that are managed for wildlife habitat.

The ranch complements the university's agricultural research infrastructure, which includes the 12,000-acre Kinsella ranch in central Alberta, the 800-acre St. Albert Research Station used for crops research, the Breton Plots used for soil research and the numerous facilities on South Campus.

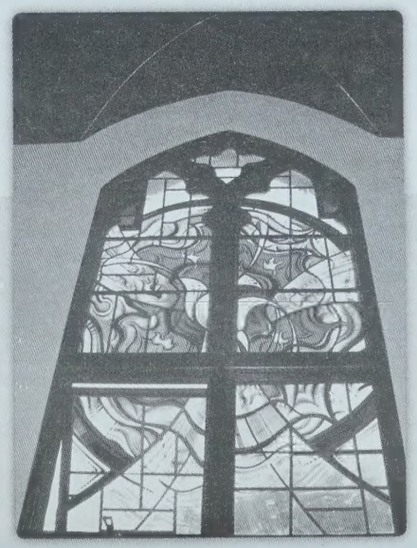
Edwin Mattheis, BSc (Eng) '57, and Ruth, BA '58, bought the ranch in 1977. By donating their ranch, for which they have a special attachment, the Mattheis are ensuring the land use will remain the same and that it will be used following the principles of sustainable rangeland management and act as a focal point for research and education.

The couple have been conducting their own research for a number of years, including testing and analysis of groundwater, monitoring of weed and wildlife presence and distributions and the collection of weather data.

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Al Kalantar, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Dec. 3 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Kalantar correctly identified the placement of the water bottle in question as among a short-lived flock of miniature snowmen in Quad. For his efforts, Kalantar has won the same U of A-emblazoned water bottle.

Up for grabs this week is a collection of stories by the U of A's Rudy Weibe. The book spans 50 years of Weibe's literary works that define and refine prairie literature. To win, simply email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Jan. 7, and you will be entered into the draw.



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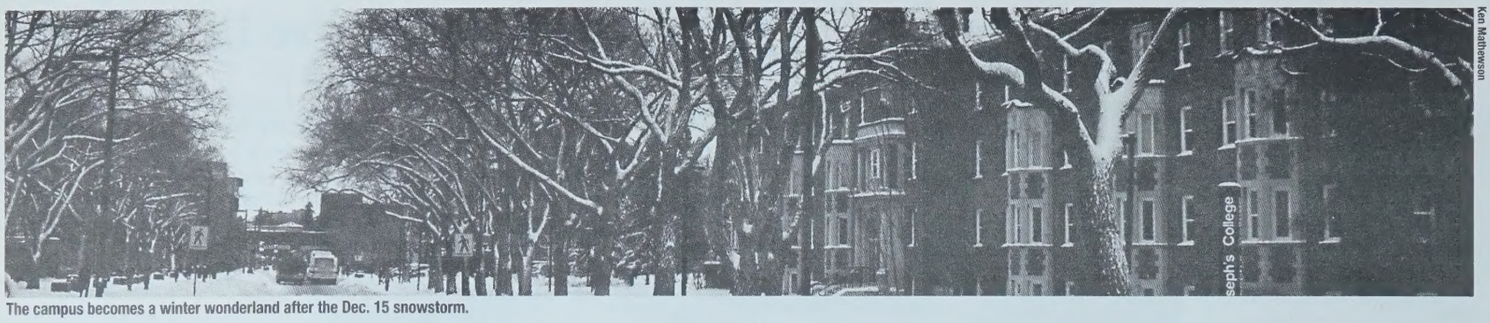


Ken Matheuson

The campus becomes a winter wonderland after the Dec. 15 snowstorm.

Edmonton's vision of the future still very much alive

Indira Samarasekera
President and vice-chancellor

the open door

Drawing a vision of the future is always a risk. As we all know, there are no guarantees, and when an imagined future finally becomes a present reality, there can be disappointment. Just as often, though, there is surprise at just how far reality exceeds aspiration. Albertans, in my experience, face the future boldly in spite of the risks. Last month, Edmonton's bid for Expo 2017—a bid that involved the University of Alberta as a central partner—came to an end, but the vision of the future that enlivened that bid is still alive and well.

That vision was one of an outward, forward-looking city located in a province and country that leads the world in quality of life, energy and sustainability, and education and research. The aim was to open our doors and welcome nations, global citizens, artists, scientists and thinkers—to hear from them and to showcase the diversity and value of our contributions to the global community. Like the city, province and other bid partners, the U of A saw a great opportunity in hosting Expo, and the fact that the bid has come to an end should not diminish all that has been achieved thus far and the possibilities that still lie ahead.

As is so often the case, tomorrow's successes are most likely to be built through collaboration. Putting together the Expo bid required collaboration and partnership across many sectors—municipal and provincial governments, public institutions, private corporations and community leaders. These connections aren't always easy to build. It takes time and effort. Ultimately, they won't thrive without an underlying conviction that in strengthening the whole, each partner strengthens itself and vice versa.

In the last several years, these ties between sectors have been growing stronger in Edmonton, and we're seeing widespread benefits. Take a recent announcement at the University of Alberta as one example: thanks to a $5 million gift from GlaxoSmithKline, we celebrate the establishment of a research endowment in virology. This gift follows on the heels of multimillion-dollar investments in virology research from the Li Ka Shing Canada Foundation and the provincial government announced early this year. Those investments made it possible for the university to recruit Michael Houghton—who discovered the hepatitis C virus—as a successful candidate for a Canada Excellence Research Chair, which came to the U of A through a new research program launched by the federal government. The result? The U of A and Edmonton are now home to an international centre of excellence in virology research.

Who benefits? Virology researchers and students, of course, but also the university more generally, as we become an increasingly attractive destination for top global talent. The city, province and country reap the benefits of being home to an international and highly skilled citizenry and workforce. More importantly, Edmonton is now set to become the site of future discoveries in virology that alleviate the suffering of people at home and around the world. In the long term, the growth of Edmonton's biomedical industry also has the potential to become a significant part of a much more diversified and innovative Albertan economy. So, thanks to extensive participation of many partners, the Expo 2017 vision of Edmonton, Alberta and Canada as being integral contributors to the global community is already becoming a reality.

This visionary, collaborative energy fuels many other initiatives as well. In partnership with city and several area sponsors, the university wrapped up a very successful 2010 Festival of Ideas which involved presenters from Edmonton, Canada, Australia, Turkey, Nicaragua, Rome, the United States and the United Kingdom. I just returned from India, where we continue to build partnerships with that country's top universities. Last month, U of A's Augustana Campus signed an agreement with one of China's new liberal arts universities, which is looking to Augustana as a model. Our ties to Germany, recently expanded with the Alberta Helmholtz Initiative, continue to grow.

The U of A is attracting this diverse, international interest because potential partners see us an institution where excellence in research and teaching is strongly supported by multiple public and private community and government partners, especially the City of Edmonton.

That's why I am convinced that the Expo vision of Edmonton as an outward, forwarding-looking city, able to have a major impact in the global community, is alive and thriving. In the coming months and years, the U of A will continue to work with our Edmonton partners to create initiatives and seek smart opportunities to share this vision, and the many benefits it will bring, with the world.

VP research here to help faculty reach potential

Michael Brown

University 101

Beyond monitoring more than 10,000 research grants—worth more than half-a-billion dollars per year to the University of Alberta—the top duty of the Office of the Vice-President (Research) is to facilitate research and creative activity.

"We need to communicate the research successes of our university", said Lorne Babiuk, vice-president (research). "If the public and the governments recognize and appreciate that what we're doing has a benefit to society, they will be more inclined to support universities".

Babiuk says the Office of the Vice-President (Research) promotes a research environment that fosters learning, creativity, community involvement and collaboration, taking its direction from the U of A's academic plan, *Dare to Deliver*. This includes building on existing research strengths in all disciplines and supporting emerging research strengths in ways that define a unique position for the university; partnering in innovative ways with governments, industry, national and international partners, and others in developing a knowledge-based economy, as well as expanding interdisciplinary links within the community and beyond.

"Research success requires many facets to come together, usually involving many individuals. Co-ordination can be a big challenge," said Babiuk. "We are constantly meeting with various faculty members and administrators to make sure that we appreciate the aspirations of each faculty member and help facilitate their success." While all of this work comes with a research-dollar label, Babiuk says that, with strengthened research, there are benefits to teaching as well.

"We must be vigilant in ensuring that teaching and research are complementary; we have to be careful not to isolate them. For me, research and teaching are on a continuum and that is why the provost and vice-president (academic) and the vice-president (research) work together very closely to ensure there is proper balance, ensuring that each reinforces the other."

The Office of the Vice-President (Research) is also responsible for developing large international programs with various agencies around the world, as well as overseeing the commercialization of technology developed by the faculty here at home.

"Ultimately, the job of the vice-president (research) is to develop and execute an overall research strategy for the university in collaboration with the faculties," said Babiuk. "The institution is very fortunate that we have an extremely capable team. The office works in conjunction with the faculty deans, associate deans (research) and chairs to create and nurture a culture of research and learning.

"The research office is here to assist faculty members and students to achieve their maximum potential. If we can be of any help in doing that, let us know," said Babiuk and that "I love this job. It allows me to experience the creative activities across our institution first-hand, which is an extraordinary privilege."

Google Apps on the way

Folio Staff

The University of Alberta announced Dec. 8 that it has come to an agreement with Google to provide the university's faculty, staff and students the use of the education edition of Google Apps. Jonathan Schaeffer, the university's vice-provost (information technology), says the agreement means the university community will begin using Google mail, calendaring, document preparation and other tools. Implementation is slated to begin in January and will be completed over the next year.

"Moving to Google will ultimately have a positive and transformative effect on teaching and learning on campus," said Schaeffer. "There are solid practical reasons to celebrate the move to Google mail, as well—the efficiency it brings will allow our IT resources to be redeployed, allowing our technology teams to turn their attention to the priorities that are central to the mission of the university."

The change will reduce the current number of independent email servers on campus—some 30 or more—to a single system for all users. There are also more than 30 Blackberry servers and these too will be consolidated into a single system.

The switch to a single email system will also allow campus-wide calendaring and a better emergency response system.

Coming to an agreement with Google was a process that took more than a year, which Schaeffer says allowed the university to ensure appropriate standards for privacy and security were included. The control of information, which is managed through the agreement, is consistent with the requirements of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Google's education edition differs on a couple of key points from Google's public product. First, the university will retain @ualberta.ca addresses (versus the gmail.com addresses used by Google generally). As well, users will not face any advertising, and Google will not be able to "mine" university data shared and stored as part of Gmail use, or share university user information with others.

"For most people the changeover will be almost invisible and users will be able to continue to work with the mail tools they're already comfortable with, or they can leap in and adopt Google's web browser email interface."

University Provost Carl Amrhein says the decision to switch to Google is groundbreaking. "The University of Alberta is the post-secondary leader in Canada when it comes to adopting the new generation of web-enabled tools. More than 20 universities in Canada lined up in support of our negotiations with Google," he said.

surf city

Mental Floss —"Where Knowledge Junkies Get Their Fix"—is an actual magazine, and if you want to read the articles, you'll need a subscription, but the mag's online site (http://www.mentalfloss.com/) has enough free content to keep a trivia buff clicking for days. From lists of the ridiculous—Top 7 Comic Book Superpowers the World Can Do Without—to the literary—10 Things You Should Know About J.R.R. Tolkien—to the agricultural—10 Provocative Questions About Raising Chickens. Answered! Quizzes, fun facts and "cocktail party cheat sheets" to confound pretentious name-droppers make Mental Floss the perfect way to prepare for the holiday rounds of Trivial Pursuit.

Virus outbreak suspected

Michael Brown

Over the Dec. 10 weekend, a number of students in Lister Centre reported an illness.

According to Kevin Friese, assistant director at the university health centre, the symptoms—vomiting, diarrhea and stomach cramps—are similar to that of the Norovirus, although that has yet to be confirmed.

"We are currently tracking the number of cases, as Norovirus can be transmitted very quickly amongst a population," said Friese. "The virus typically runs its course in 24-48 hours, although individuals should isolate themselves for up to two days after symptoms have abated, getting rest and drinking lots of clear fluids, to make sure they are truly over it."

Friese says the Norovirus is easily spread. The main source of the virus is stool (feces) and vomit from infected persons. The virus is most often spread from person-to-person on unwashed hands. The virus can also be spread by food, water or ice that has been handled by a sick person. Vomiting may spread the virus through the air.

"Norovirus can reside on surfaces for a long time, so it is really important that people are washing their hands regularly with warm water and soap or an alcohol-based hand rub (minimum 62 per cent alcohol content)," said Friese. "If you are sharing a work station, then we are encouraging people to regularly sanitize the area.

"Also, washrooms are perfect breeding grounds for the virus."

Staff and students who experience these specific symptoms are encouraged to email the University Health Centre (health.reporting@ualberta.ca) and report the date that their symptoms.

To prevent and minimize the spread of the virus, the university has increased the frequency of the cleaning of commonly touched surfaces, such as doorknobs, elevator switches, etc. Soap and paper towel will also now be fully stocked in all shared washrooms of the Lister Centre. Laundry facilities will now be free for all residents to enable frequent washing as necessary.

The university administration reminds students that medical notes are no longer necessary for exam. University policy now encourages students to stay home and get better, with a declaration being completed at the corresponding faculty office/Registrar's Office after they are feeling better.

For more information, go to www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/norovirus.html.

Kids with disabilities have their say in landmark study

Jane Hurly

The playground can be a daunting place for any kid trying to join in and be one of the gang. For kids with disabilities, it's just as important to feel included, accepted and valued—particularly by their peers.

In a study to understand the perspectives of children with disabilities around inclusion in physical activities during free play, recreational sports and recess, Nancy Spencer-Cavaliere, an adapted physical activity expert in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, interviewed children with a range of disabilities about their thoughts on what made them feel included or rejected during these activities.

Nancy Spencer-Cavaliere

"Children were asked to theorize about other fictional children who are like them, so they didn't have to pour their hearts out initially if they didn't want to. So I'd start by saying, 'Imagine if you were . . .'

"I found that as children theorized, they would float in and out of [describing things in the] first, second and third person. They wove their own experiences into those of the fictional child they were theorizing about. Final questions would ask, 'How about you? How would you feel?'"

Three themes emerged from the data: gaining entry to play, feeling like a legitimate participant and having friends.

"Many children spoke about initiating play," says Spencer-Cavaliere, "and either being invited to play or asking to play, and being rejected or not being invited or not being allowed. Making that initial step into a play environment is really a critical step for children."

One of the children gave an example of wanting to play freeze-tag, a game he enjoyed. "He asked to play and was rejected. He asked the teacher to help and the teacher did nothing. Eventually he walked away. 'It feels like you're treated like an insect,' he said. So a major part of being included was being asked to take part, or another child saying, 'Yes, you can play.'"

Children frequently expressed the need to feel valued, indicating the second major theme: feeling like a legitimate participant. Says Spencer-Cavaliere, "For the children this meant, once within a physical activity or play environment, taking on roles that were meaningful, feeling a part of the game and feeling important, as though you had a valued role."

> **"The free-play setting is a major challenge for children with disabilities simply because they're really dependent on other children who are not always mature, or understand or appreciate difference and value that."**
>
> Nancy Spencer-Cavaliere

One boy talked about being sent onto the field during the closing minutes of a soccer match when the team was losing badly. "The child was told to go in," says Spencer-Cavaliere, "but with little time left and the team about to lose anyway, he said, 'I know it's being 'included,' but you just don't feel like you're included.'

"Being in the game isn't the same as feeling as though you're part of it."

In the third theme, children stressed the value of true friendships, having someone they could depend on and trust. "That allowed children to be less concerned about their performance and more invested in being part of the game and having a good time because they were in a safe place with people who accepted and valued them."

One surprise for Spencer-Cavaliere: "Children were given a broad spectrum of things they could talk about, but they never mentioned physical education when discussing feeling included," she says. "This may mean they don't consider physical education as inclusive because it's very structured by adults. It seems other children determine the distinction between feeling included or belonging that could arise in other play settings where children could direct and make decisions about who takes part.

"With that said, the free-play setting is a major challenge for children with disabilities," says Spencer-Cavaliere, "simply because they're really dependent on other children who are not always mature, or who don't understand or appreciate difference and value that."

So what's a teacher, coach, or parent to do to help kids with disability feel included? "When in doubt, ask the child," says Spencer Cavaliere. "You get valuable information and it gives them a say."

Spencer-Cavaliere cautions there is no simple solution. "Children need to have legitimate choices to have meaningful experiences in a variety of physical activity settings, and we should not be limiting the type of setting."

Prof plays 80 games of squash to honour injured student

Jane Hurly

What do you do to let someone know you really care?

If you're Brian Maraj, you get on the squash court for eight hours, take on roughly 40 opponents in 10-minute matches (80 games in total), and don't come off until you've raised a good chunk of money for a very worthy cause.

The "Squash-Maraj-athon" arranged by Maraj, a professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, was all in the name of undergraduate student Terry Tenove, who suffered a spinal-cord injury during a routine hockey drill Oct. 7.

Tenove had been in Maraj's class on skills acquisition and performance several years before while doing his combined physical education/education degree, and Maraj remembers him as "one of the spunkiest, most enthusiastic go-getters I ever met." And, understanding that the road ahead for Tenove would be challenging, Maraj decided to do something to keep his his spirits buoyed.

"I wanted to honour Terry's fighting spirit," says Maraj, "and to do something to show him we're thinking of him and continue to offer him moral support. I wanted to do something I love for someone we love."

So Maraj rallied friends, coworkers and students to play him in a marathon squash "Maraj-athon" for eight hours on Dec. 8.

Tenove was excited too when he heard and asked for any money raised during the squash marathon to be donated to the Free2BMe physical activity programs for kids and teens with disabilities, run out of the Steadward Centre.

Because Maraj had no previous experience in endurance events, he sought out some advice from exercise physiologist Gordon Bell, to figure out how to pace himself and fuel his body for endurance. "I had a misguided notion of what I would be eating and drinking," he says, "but Gordon told me what to eat and when—tips about which foods were high-glycemic and low-glycemic and how I could structure them during the course of the day."

Properly fuelled, Maraj took on his opponents with enthusiasm, taking breaks on the hour and a short respite at lunch when education dean Fern Snart presented Maraj with a generous contribution to the cause.

Supplied

Brian Maraj congratulates physical education and recreation Dean Kerry Mummery for a game well played.

With an hour to go, Maraj played Peter Tenove, Terry's brother, an undergraduate kinesiology student, currently in Maraj's class, to a very enthusiastic crowd of supporters.

And at the end of the eight hours? "I was not tired. I didn't collapse. I didn't even feel like collapsing," he says. "I played every game hard. I had the most exhilarating feeling all day, as though I was on a wave of euphoria, and never felt exhausted; I guess a labour of love can do that."

With almost $3,000 raised and pledges still rolling in, Maraj is clear it's not so much about the money as it is about caring and showing it. "This is for Terry. I want him to know that we care and that we think about him every day."

U of A checks in with FourSquare

Ileiren Poon

Tech-savvy cellphone users can now make their mark on the University of Alberta campus using FourSquare.

The U of A campus is the first Canadian university on FourSquare, a downloadable app for smart phones that allows users to share their location with friends by "checking in" to various locations mapped out on GPS. Visitors can offer tips or comments about the places they visit and collect points and "badges" for frequent check-ins.

"What I noticed from using FourSquare personally was that a number of buildings on our South Campus had already been tagged by students, and that the student population were heavy users of FourSquare already," said Jennifer Chesney, marketing and communications executive director (web strategy).

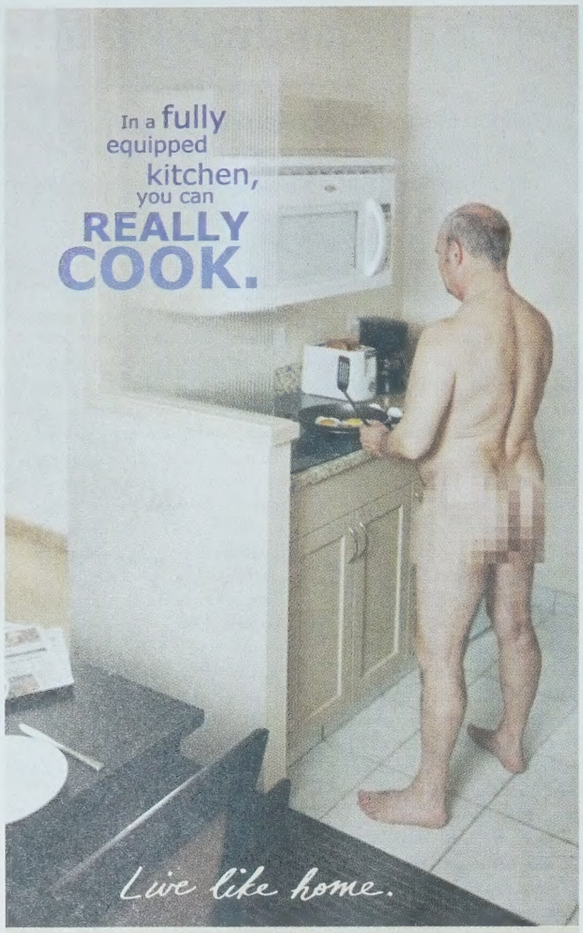
Locations such as the Students' Union Building and the Butterdome are marked on a digital map, many of them complete with hints and tips about the location. Facts like "In the opening credits of SCTV (filmed in Edmonton in the early 1980s) people threw televisions out of Lister Hall's windows," or "Look at the 11 stained-glass panels of St. Joseph's College. The decorative windows, which depict the mysteries of Christ, were installed between 1984 and 1996," are attached to campus locations.

"We felt that it would be real value-added for the students for them to be able to get more information about the buildings all around them and help them feel like they're part of the campus a little bit more. The more students understand the history of what they're participating in, the more they feel a sense of belonging," said Chesney.

Students and visitors leave simple tips, too, like, "Nice bathrooms!" in the computing science centre or "The coffee shop on the 2nd floor has excellent Indian food" in the Research Transition Facility.

"The kinds of tips you leave in FourSquare are very personal, and most of them offer their friends' advice. They may go to a particular place in SUB and say the coffee at Java Jive is excellent today," said Chesney.

The social media site is also reaching out to an international user group, said Chesney. "FourSquare is really serving our needs to enhance global awareness of what the U of A is, and it's a real reality check for what's the real culture on campus."



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U of A snowbirds to winter at South Pole

Dinosaur dig lures paleontogists to Antarctica's Beardmore Glacier

Supplied

Wanda Vivequin

A lot of Alberta couples travel south this time of year—but U of A science duo Phil Currie and Eva Koppelhus have outdone them all. They're headed to Antarctica's spectacular Beardmore Glacier, just a few hundred kilometres shy of the South Pole.

For Currie, it's a return visit. In 2003, he was invited to join an expedition led by William Hammer from Augustana College in Illinois. In 1991, Hammer collected a partial skeleton of a new species of therapod, a meat-eating dinosaur, on the slopes of Antarctica's Mount Kirkpatrick. In 1994, he and William Hickerson named it *Cryolophosaurus ellioti*.

Phil Currie

"*Cryolophosaurus* has an unusual bony crest on top of its skull, above the eyes," Currie explains. "Many other theropods have crests, but they're all longitudinal. This one is transverse, like a snow shovel on top of the head."

In 2003, when Hammer raised funds to continue the excavation, he asked Currie to join the team. "I was ecstatic," recalls Currie.

That trip gave Currie memories to last a lifetime. On one overnight camping trip, the crew spotted penguins in the distance and stopped to take photos. "To our amazement, more than a dozen Emperor penguins walked right over to see who—or what—was invading their territory," Currie says. "When they got bored, they waddled off again across the ice."

Currie was also moved by visits to several historic sites. On Cape Royds, he was able to enter a hut left behind by the Shackleton expedition of 1907. "It was a wonderful, but eerie experience," says Currie, "to walk through and see unopened cans of food, sleds, beds with sealskin sleeping bags, and all of the other supplies that they abandoned when they left."

On this year's expedition, Hammer hopes to finish excavating the *Cryolophosaurus* skeleton, and to start prospecting other promising sites that his team surveyed by helicopter in 2003. Currie's adrenaline is already pumping. "Most of the rocks of the Hanson Formation are exposed only on the highest mountains, so it's sure to be exciting."

Once Currie and Koppelhus arrive at McMurdo, Antarctica, they and the team face a week of courses in snow survival, altitude and mountaineering before flying inland to their remote camp. "We'll spend most of December and January in an icy, frozen corner of the world that is spectacularly beautiful," marvels Currie. In short, it's no tropical cruise. But it promises to be one magnificent adventure.

ISTAR helps those suffering from speech impediments speak out

Holly Gray

Supplied

Before Walid Omairi sought treatment at the U of A's Institute for Stuttering Treatment and Research, he had a stuttering impediment so bad he couldn't say his name.

Walid Omairi used to introduce himself as "Vinchenzo." But he wasn't playing a trick or trying to be funny. The 17-year-old had a stuttering impediment so severe he was forced to avoid using certain words, including his own name.

But now Omairi has his confidence—and his name—back, thanks to an intensive three-week program at the world-class Institute for Stuttering Treatment and Research, or ISTAR, a division of the University of Alberta's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine. Omairi says he can't believe how far he's come since beginning treatment.

"I can remember five weeks ago standing in the airport, begging my brother to order a bottle of water for me because I was so terrified to speak to other people," he says. "Although this sounds hard on my brother, he wouldn't order it for me. He was just trying to get me to attempt speaking, rather than avoid the situation. Ultimately, I waited to get on the plane and pointed at the water when the steward was serving drinks."

The institute prides itself on its goal of helping those with speech impediments become the best communicators possible—for them to be able to say exactly what they want to say, when and wherever they want to say it. Now Omairi has the tools to help himself overcome the simplest challenges that fluent speakers take for granted, such as ordering food and beverages. And he's not the only one; countless courageous individuals from around the world have travelled to ISTAR to take control of their speech impediments since it was first established in 1986.

Emily Wheeler, a graduate from the speech-language pathology program at the U of A's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, completed a one-month intensive clinic practicum at the institute and says it was "inspiring working with clients at ISTAR."

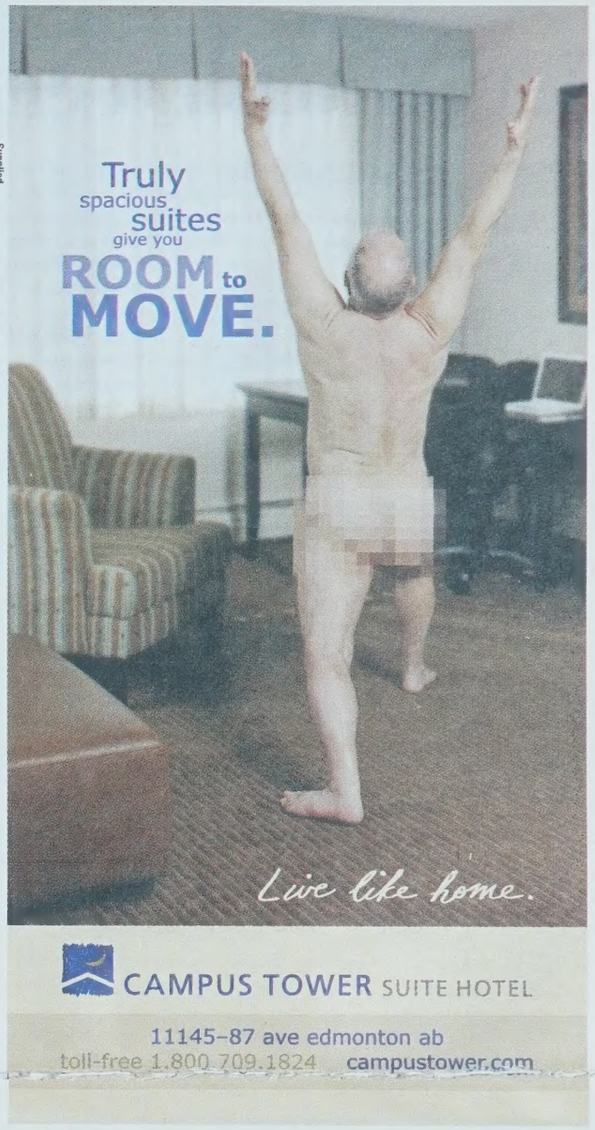
"My experience at ISTAR was extremely rewarding," she says. "The best part was seeing the transformation each client underwent in terms of their confidence as a speaker. Shy clients were suddenly telling stories and cracking jokes. It was just amazing to see personalities shine through as clients began to believe in their ability to use their fluency skills."

Wheeler, now a working speech-language pathologist with Alberta Health Services, said she would highly recommend ISTAR as a clinical placement for future students.

"I am grateful I had the opportunity to meet the wonderful and supportive staff at ISTAR, from whom I learned so much," she says. "Upon completing this practicum I was much more confident in my understanding of stuttering, as well as my clinical abilities to assess and work with clients who stutter."

ISTAR also conducts groundbreaking stuttering research, offers advanced professional training for speech-language pathology students and clinicians, and promotes public awareness of stuttering and its treatment. ISTAR is the only treatment facility of its kind in North America.

Omairi celebrated his graduation from ISTAR's intensive treatment program by doing a television interview for Global News. "Just a month ago, I would never have thought I'd be standing in front of you doing a speech," he said in his speech at the ISTAR graduation ceremony. "Now I'm about to do an interview for TV!"



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teaching & learning, learning & teaching

Killam recipient shines in discipline with no home

Geoff McMaster

Almost three years ago, an Air Canada jet flying over the Rocky Mountains from Victoria to Toronto was suddenly lifted and dropped about 20 metres, causing passengers who weren't belted in to hit the roof of the plane.

Bruce Sutherland

The Transportation Safety Board determined that the cause of the strange and terrifying phenomenon that hit flight AC190 was turbulence, caused by a plane that had passed overhead five minutes earlier. But U of A atmospheric scientist Bruce Sutherland was able to show that a wall of vertically moving air—a little-understood, "large-amplitude" atmospheric wave—was responsible for the event.

The board never did revise its conclusion, and the world continues to await its final report, which was expected last January, said Sutherland. But shedding light on such waves with highly sophisticated mathematical models is Sutherland's claim to fame. Before his groundbreaking research, no one really understood precisely how these waves move in the atmosphere, or how they break up once they reach sufficient amplitude.

Now Sutherland and his team have managed to capture large-amplitude waves in a mathematical code used by the Canadian Climate Centre for climate predictions, determining wind and temperature patterns. "We basically improved how that climate model works," he says.

The centre's climate model had predicted colder temperatures, for example, than are now observed at the South Pole. With the addition of Sutherland's code, the model now more accurately reflects warmer observed temperatures in the region, and by extension, can more accurately predict ozone depletion.

For these scholarly contributions, among others, and for an impressive teaching and community-service record, Sutherland has been awarded a prestigious 2010 Killam Scholarship.

"The Killam was huge," he says. "It's not just the prestige, but that it recognizes teaching and interaction with the community as well as research." And as for the support he receives from the U of A, he says he couldn't be more grateful.

"I don't think there's any other university in Canada where you can do what I do. Someone went out on a limb when I was hired."

That's because his niche discipline, as he puts it, "falls between the cracks." His primary focus on fluid dynamics, examining the properties of waves in the ocean and atmosphere, "should be physics," he says, "but the department here, like most departments, doesn't consider fluid dynamics to be part of physics anymore. The focus is on particles, black holes or quantum mechanics."

Some might consider his research to be engineering, "but engineers are focusing mostly on industrial problems, not atmospheric of oceanographic." Earth and atmospheric science might seem the appropriate home, but mathematics doesn't have a big role there, and Sutherland says his work is highly mathematical. In fact, he was in the U of A's Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences from 1997 to 2007. He now has a cross-appointment between the departments of physics and Earth and atmospheric sciences, a reflection of his discipline's homeless status.

All of that confusion can sometimes produce challenges in his teaching life as well. Because atmospheric sciences are assumed to be light on math, many of his students take his courses because they're trying to avoid that subject. Their disappointment is palpable, he says, when they discover they're in for a crash course in their least favorite subject.

"Some of the students hate the math . . . but then they see all the applications, and then suddenly it's not equations anymore but descriptions of reality. So a third of them end up loving it, but a third hate the fact I throw them into the deep end."

Does managing all those expectations mean Sutherland loves teaching or finds it a burden? His answer is qualified, but honest.

"I really like the teaching if the students are engaged. If they're asking, 'Is this going to be on the final exam?'—I don't respect that. But if they're always thinking, 'where does this go, what's happening here, what are the implications of that?'—that curiosity makes it all worthwhile."

> "I don't think there's any other university in Canada where you can do what I do. Someone went out on a limb when I was hired."
>
> Bruce Sutherland

staff spotlight

Supervisor has an admission of happiness

Michael Brown

If you're happy with your job, everything else just slides into place.

That is the philosophy Judith Odhuno-Were brings to the office every day, and because of it, the international admissions supervisor with the Office of the Registrar & Student Awards was presented with a University of Alberta Support Staff Recognition Award, handed out Nov. 15.

Judith Odhuno-Were

"You have to be happy with your job. I know that sounds generic but you if you're not happy in your job it's hard to perform in any way," says the international admissions. "Since I started here my biggest philosophy has just been being content, being happy."

Odhuno-Were supervises the unit, which is responsible for evaluating applications and admitting international students for study at the U of A.

And although her duties are managerial in nature, Odhuno-Were's colleagues say she goes above and beyond her regular duties to keep the unit organized and productive.

"Judith takes it upon herself to help out at the front desk and by answering phones assisting students," wrote one nominator, "not because help is necessarily needed, but because she wants to get involved in the work we do on a hands-on basis. She enjoys presenting information to the students and interacting with them."

Joining her troops in the trenches is one of the methods Odhuno-Were says she uses to promote teamwork.

"We have to be able to work as a team to do our job effectively in this unit," said the one-time international field hockey player for her home country of Kenya. "We have to get along, we don't have to be best friends, but we have to have the work ethic to get along."

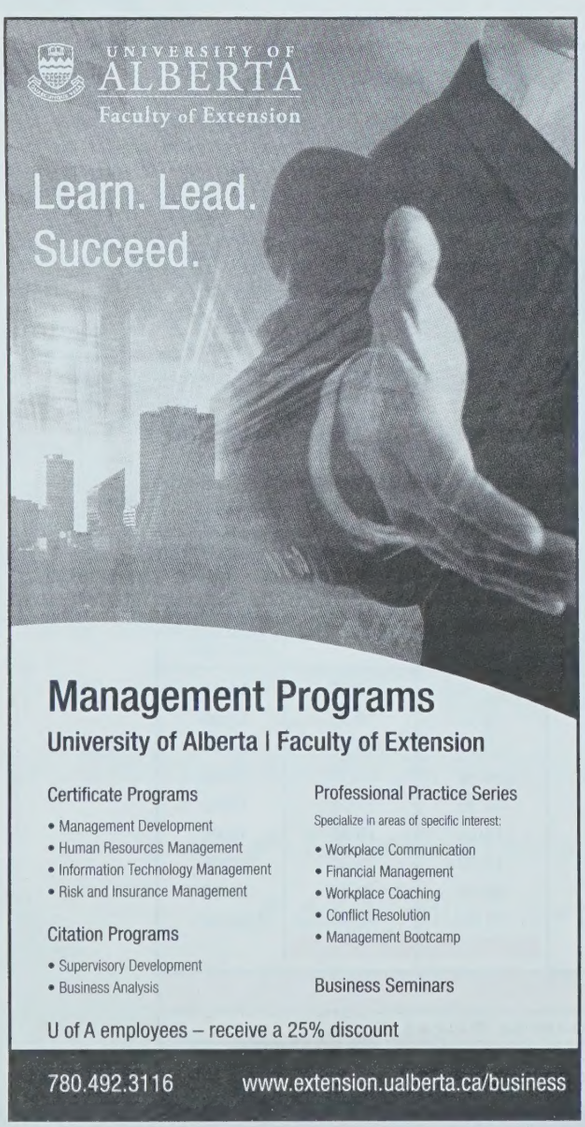
Odhuno-Were, who has an education degree from the U of A, also says she preaches respect and fairness.

"I believe it is important to make everybody feel that they are valued in their job no matter what they do," she said. "I think I am able to rally everyone behind a common goal and I make people feel like it's okay to make mistakes; let's just find the teachable moment and move on.

"It's not the end of the world."

Odhuno-Were says that such an outlook was not always the case at previous jobs, which makes her appreciate her position at the U of A that much more.

"The U of A allows you to be who you are," she said. "I feel very empowered to make decisions and I know I have the backing."



Researcher finds trust isn't always a virtue

Bev Betkowski

Citizen groups acting as consultants to industry would do well to hold onto a little healthy mistrust to keep debate and critical thinking alive, says a University of Alberta researcher.

After studying public advisory committees in the forestry sector, professor John Parkins concluded that in some cases, high levels of trust led to familiarity and apathy on the part of citizens entrusted with representing the public's interests.

Parkins, a researcher in the Department of Rural Economy at the U of A, hopes his findings will give businesses and industry a fresh understanding of what makes citizen committees effective.

"Meaningful public engagement involves more than bringing like-minded people together for regular meetings. It is also important to understand how 'group think' emerges within these groups over time.

"Trust isn't always a good thing, if it erodes the desire—especially of long-term groups—to deliberate and to question resource-management plans," Parkins added.

> "Trust isn't always a good thing, if it erodes the desire to deliberate and to question resource-management plans."
>
> John Parkins

Parkins' 10-month comparative study of sample advisory committees in Alberta's forest industry revealed that the familiarity of group members and a gradual build up of trust tended to "dampen the quality of discussion, the vigorousness of debate and the range of issues and ideas under consideration."

There are more than 200 public advisory committees in the forest sector across Canada, so it is important to understand how these groups function, since they are held up as a key tool for public influence over the management of public lands in Canada, he added.

The study, which was published in a recent issue of *Society and Natural Resources*, found that when committee members shared a long history of regular meetings and a common pool of knowledge, the meetings lacked public-spiritedness and a connection to the big picture of forest management in Alberta.

In one of the groups studied, many of its members had worked together for more than a decade, and had overlapping personal and professional relationships with one another and with forest company representatives. "With high levels of familiarity, debates about regional forest management were not a priority. Members simply trusted local forest managers to do the right thing," Parkins noted.

He recommends that industries seek out a wider range of public interests for their committees and include members with strong advocacy positions; committee members should be invited to organize and lead meetings, and there should be term limits or rotating membership on the committee.

'Dune buggy' course more than just a race

Richard Cairney

Richard Cairney

Students from Curt Stout's mechanical engineering course prepare to test their electric dune buggies.

Imagine a university course where you race a high-performance remote-control dune buggy as part of your final exam. That's exactly what students in Curt Stout's mechanical engineering course did earlier this month.

"I would say it's definitely the best final exam ever," said fourth-year mechanical engineering student Kate Maguire. "It's high stress, but it's really a great course. We learned a lot about design process and design intent."

Student teams were given high-end remote-control dune buggies and instructed to convert them from gas to electric power. Teams had to design and manufacture all of the new parts. The final exam consisted of racing the buggies successfully and delivering a presentation on the conversion design process.

"I'm really into sustainable design, so converting these from gas to electric power really interested me," added Maguire, who took part in an exchange program with the University of Freiburg in Germany for a course on sustainability last summer.

The course has a few more interesting twists: students spend their Saturdays at the NAIT machine shop learning to make new parts for their buggies, and no student can manufacture a part of their own design, or inspect a part they've designed or manufactured. The idea, says Stout, is that the students learn to draw plans that are perfectly clear to a machinist.

"That inevitably leads to a lot of hallway discussions among the students," said Stout, an industrial professor of design who teaches the course with adjunct professor Dave DeJong. "There is a lot of peer learning that goes on. The students are completely engaged."

"There is a lot of talking back and forth," said fourth-year student Danny Pollard. "You design the parts, you check the drawings, you manufacture the parts and you test the parts. There's a lot of hands-on work and it's time consuming, but it's all worth it."

Held Dec. 4, the race portion of the exam was a timed event. Each team member had to operate the vehicle in a lap race that featured high speeds, spectacular crashes and the occasional emergency repair.

The race even attracted parents of students. Dean Borschneck, whose son Sean was in the course, drove nearly three hours to Edmonton from Irricana to watch the race.

"He phoned to tell me about what they were doing—he was just gushing about it," said Dean. For his part, Sean says the course was demanding, but invaluable.

"The whole semester has seemed like a final exam—all of our work has led up to this day," he said, adding that his team made spare parts in anticipation of crashes or breakdowns at the exam.

"I'm really interested in manufacture and design so this was a great class."

Paleontology Museum lures crowds with massive monster of the sea

Jennifer Kuchta

The next time you're walking down the long hallway in the basement of the Earth Sciences Building at the University of Alberta, don't be surprised to find a massive beady eye monitoring your every move. The Paleontology Museum recently unveiled its newest permanent exhibit, featuring a cast of a *Dunkleosteus* skull—a super predator that dominated the Devonian seas 360 million years ago—creating a commanding entrance to the museum.

The Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology purchased this cast, a replica of the largest mounted vertebrate skeleton from the Devonian period. "These animals were the biggest predators before the dinosaurs," says Mark Wilson, professor emeritus, who, along with Michael Caldwell, chair of biological sciences, was instrumental in the acquisition. "It illustrates to students and researchers the dramatic evolution of the Class Placodermi, which contained a great diversity of armoured fishes but did not survive the end of the Devonian. It also helps us understand other, more fragmentary fossils, including a fang from an even larger jaw that has been in the U of A's collection since 1915, when it was found near Exshaw by John A. Allan, first professor of Geology at the U of A." This fang, a treasure in the paleontology collection, is now exhibited permanently alongside *Dunkleosteus*.

Standing next to the fang and the *Dunkleosteus* skull with its scissor-like jaw—even apart from its six-metre-long body—gives the museum-goer an eerie sense of the damage these massive predators inflicted on their prey, and there were a lot of "wows" overheard when 575 first-year geology students recently visited the museum. These jaws have also been the subject of biomechanical studies using 3-D models and simulations in the Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology.

The Paleontology Museum, located in the basement of the Earth Sciences Building on the University of Alberta campus, is open Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and by appointment. This new exhibit was made possible with the support of the Alberta Museums Association, the Department of Biological Sciences, the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, the Friends of the University of Alberta Museums, the U of A Museums and the Vertebrate Paleontology Specimen Acquisition Fund. For more information, contact 780-492-5834 or visit www.museums.ualberta.ca.

Parkinson's sufferers sing a new song

Laurie Wang

Singing lessons as a form of treatment for people with Parkinson's disease? For speech language-pathologist and vocalist Merrill Tanner, it's always made sense.

Currently a PhD student at the University of Alberta's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Tanner is studying how singing can improve function and communication for patients with the disease—and she's already seeing some positive results.

Merrill Tanner

Parkinson's disease is typically a disease of the elderly, striking in the late 50s. The degenerative disorder hinders the body's ability to produce dopamine, a neurotransmitter that plays a key role in the body's message system. As the disease progresses, the brain is less able to tell body parts what to do.

In addition to symptoms such as tremors, slow movement and parkinsonian gait, patients will eventually lose the ability to speak and swallow—that's where Tanner's study comes in.

"Singing is more vigorous than speech, though it's the same mechanism," Tanner explains. "It's an energetic way to improve loudness, pitch variability, pitch range, breath support and more."

While practicing as a speech-language pathologist in at the Adult Speech Language Centre in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Tanner incorporated singing into her treatment for patients with PD. She began work at the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital in 2001 with patients who had PD, Alzheimer's or suffered a stroke. She started a weekly singing group for geriatric inpatients.

"Some people would question the use of singing in speech therapy. They'd ask me if I knew for sure that it was effective," says Tanner.

So Tanner decided to do the research herself. She approached a vocal teacher and asked him to conduct his usual half-hour singing lessons three times a week with a cohort of seven PD patients.

"It was very beneficial for the patients and they loved it," she said. "They'd go home and practise on their own time."

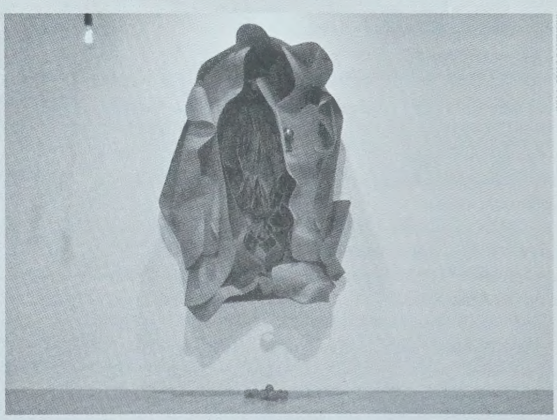
Tanner then made the decision to pursue a PhD in rehabilitation science at the U of A, taking the study further and hosting her own group-singing program for patients with PD.

"There's something about singing together—the unison effect—when there's more than one person, the words seem to flow better because you're together," she explains.

The singing lessons accommodate any level of musical ability, whether the PD patient is just a beginner or a high-level musician.

"I also see the support group phenomenon happening. The people in the group come together and see others who are in the same situation. There is a bond and they support one another."

On at the FAB



Michael Davies-Venn

Lindsay Knox's MFA thesis exhibition, Poem for a Homebody, runs until Jan. 15 at the FAB Gallery. This particular piece is titled Departures and Arrivals.

news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Promising treatments for hep B and tuberculosis found

A researcher and his team with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry have discovered a new class of drugs that could one day be used to treat people with hepatitis B. They have also made a similar discovery for the treatment of tuberculosis.

Working with cultures in his lab, Rakesh Kumar and his colleagues have discovered a new class of drugs for hepatitis B that does three important things: it is effective against the normal strain of the hepatitis B virus; it is effective against the drug-resistant strain and it isn't toxic to healthy cells. He says no one else in the world has identified this class of drugs. These new drugs could be used in combination with other hepatitis B drugs on the market—at the same time, by themselves or one after the other.

Right now, four drugs are used to treat hepatitis B. Some of these treatments trigger drug-resistant strains of the virus. When the treatment is halted for any reason, it can result in more severe hepatitis B infection. Some of these current treatments are also toxic to patients.

"We want to inhibit the virus without killing healthy cells and that's what this new class of drugs can do," says Kumar, an associate professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology. "And we want to inhibit the DNA of the virus with maximum impact in hopes of eradicating the hepatitis B virus altogether."

Researchers looking for high-schools grads from 1985

Where were you in 1985? If you were a graduate of Harry Ainley, Ross Sheppard, Victoria Composite, Jasper Place, Eastglen or Queen Elizabeth high schools, some University of Alberta researchers may want to talk to you.

Back in 1985, a group of some 900 students from these six Edmonton high schools took part in a research study on the sociological and psychological effects of youth unemployment. The project was a school-to-work transition study undertaken during one of the province's economic downturns. The researchers, including Harvey Krahn, one of the principal investigators of the original study, last spoke to the subjects more than 10 years ago for a follow-up on the original survey. Now they are looking to go a step further and follow up with these former students again—something that would make this project a first in Canada.

If you were part of the 1985 School-Work Transition project survey or think you are, and wish to be part of the 25 year follow-up survey, visit the website or email swt25@ualberta.ca.

Engineer wins thesis competition and researches cancer

The future of cancer treatment and a University of Alberta graduate student's personal career prospects are looking bright. Weiyang Liu beat competitors from 80 of the best university graduate schools in western North America with his master's thesis on the use of a light-sensitive drug to treat prostate cancer.

Liu, a U of A electrical engineering student, had his research reviewed internally and was put forward as the university's sole entry into the annual master's thesis competition sponsored by the Western Association of Graduate Schools, which represents some 80 university graduate schools located in western Canada and the United States. He is part of the university's interdisciplinary team developing a two-technology treatment that specifically targets a cancerous prostate gland. Liu says the combination of drug treatment and the fibre-optics system could one day replace the long-standing prostate cancer treatments alternatives, chemotherapy or surgery.

"Our prostate cancer drug is injected into a patient, but only begins killing cells when it's activated or turned on by laser light, which is guided by tiny fibre-optic cables that have been inserted into the patient's prostate gland," said Liu. "This delivers the cancer treatment right to the prostate, unlike chemotherapy, which attacks the whole body."

Team's aim is to get research to the patient's bed faster

A team of scientists and clinicians are hoping that working with decision makers helps their medical findings get from the bench to the bedside quicker. That's the idea behind the Alberta-wide Interdisciplinary Chronic Disease Collaboration.

"What we find most rewarding as physicians is publishing our research and then seeing immediate changes in health policy, and in how care is delivered to our patients. But that often doesn't happen," said Marcello Tonelli, a professor in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. "We decided to create a province-wide research team, deliberately including health-care decision-makers and government policy-makers as team members, to ensure that our research findings can be of immediate benefit."

Tonelli, along with colleagues Brenda Hemmelgarn and Braden Manns from the University of Calgary, created the collaboration and began the process by meeting with key leaders at Alberta Health and Wellness and Alberta Health Services. In 2009 the team got funding and started its work. It is comprised of 26 members, including scientists, physicians and health policy-makers from the universities of Alberta, Calgary, Toronto, Aberdeen and Queen's University. As well they have officials from Alberta Health Services, the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health, and Statistics Canada.

Joining agricultural forces for schoolchildren

Bev Betkowski

The University of Alberta has joined forces with an Aboriginal community to teach schoolchildren about the joys of growing and eating their own vegetables.

As part of a nutrition study led by researchers in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, 25 Earthboxes were recently installed in Grades 1 to 7 classrooms at Kipohtakaw Education Centre on the Alexander First Nation, northwest of Edmonton.

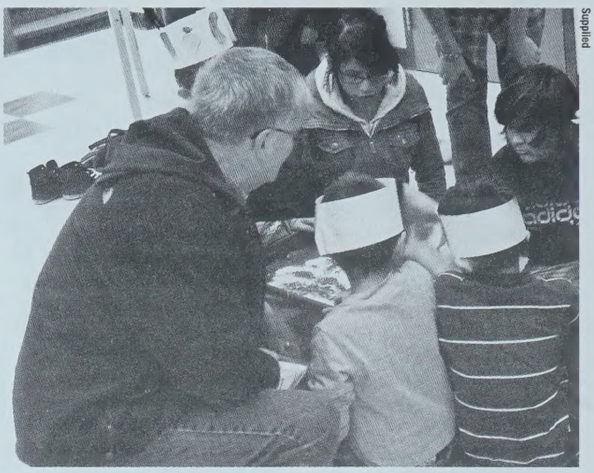
The plants-in-a-box are part of a two-year study to see if small classroom gardens can coax kids to acquire a taste for, and subsequently eat more, vegetables and fruit. The project, which is also supported by Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, is for the first time including a First Nations school in its scope, at the request of the community itself.

The Earthbox project arose from concerns within Alexander First Nation about the health of its children and an underlying worry about an increasing rate of obesity.

Discussions were started by one of the community's elders with researchers at the U of A, and it was decided to launch a study to explore the issue. A "wisdom committee" was formed, bringing together elders, band governance and university researchers. Together, the committee members developed culturally sensitive parametres for the study to ensure the children would be comfortable during the survey process. Then the Earthboxes were welcomed into the school and blessed in a special ceremony before the youngsters started planting.

"There was dirt everywhere," chuckled David DyckFehderau, project co-ordinator of First Nations Child Health at the U of A. "Lots of fun was had by all."

Jody Kootenay, director of education for Alexander First Nation, sees the project as much more than just an exercise in healthy eating. It's also a meaningful partnership that benefits her community.



Supplied

Earthboxes were recently installed in classrooms at Kipohtakaw Education Centre on the Alexander First Nation, northwest of Edmonton, as part of a nutrition study.

"The university was open to hearing from parents and what our needs are as a community. The people involved have that passion and sensitivity for what they are doing, and they truly care about our community and the kids," Kootenay said.

The dill, tomatoes, carrots and beets sprouting in the classes will be harvested into the school's hot lunch program, and the subject of plants and nutrition will be discussed as class topics.

During the course of the study, students' weight and diet will be assessed to determine whether the classroom gardens make an impression on the children, said Anna Farmer, an assistant professor of community nutrition at the U of A, and one of the researchers leading the study.

"We will be able to see whether there's been any change in attitudes and preferences towards food," Farmer said. "Ultimately, we want to improve their eating habits, and to be more confident about growing food, so they can initiate that in their own families."

When the Earthboxes—which are widely used and endorsed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations—were brought into the school, the youngsters helped assemble the boxes and plant the seeds, to grow a sense of ownership.

"The children will come close to understanding where their food comes from, and they'll learn at a young age about making healthy choices," said DyckFehderau. "We hope they'll learn about plants, gardening and nutrition by working with the Earthboxes in class, by talking with elders about traditional gardening and plants, and by talking with teachers about nutrition."

The study's findings will help the Alexander community understand what obesity is doing to its children, Kootenay said.

"I'm hoping [the project] initiates discussions and funding so that kids can have access to regular physical activity outside of school. We also want to raise awareness in our community about the food we are feeding our children and the lack of healthy options, given the area we live in. We hope this project will re-instil the need for and value of traditional foods as healthier choices."

The collaboration is equally rewarding for the U of A, said Farmer. "It's nice to be working with such a proactive community, that takes ownership of the project."

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New fund made available for international research collaborations

Michael Davies-Venn

The University of Alberta's World Universities Network office has begun offering funds to graduate student researchers and faculty. The new Research Mobility Fund is the latest development since the U of A accepted an invitation to join the network in 2008, which is made up of other leading research institutions worldwide. Stefan Scherer, U of A Worldwide Universities Network project co-ordinator, says the new funds will enable mobility of graduate students and researchers.

"There is a commitment by the U of A to foster research collaborations with other leading international public universities within the network," Scherer said. "Researchers can apply and use the funds to visit colleagues in other countries within the network and bring back what they learned to the U of A. Also, researchers can also use the fund to bring colleagues to the U of A."

Scherer says researchers within the network, made up of 16 universities, are presently focused on five research themes, or global challenges, which include opportunities and challenges of globalization, adapting to climate change and understanding cultures. He says research done in the partnership network can contribute towards solutions to challenges society faces. The Worldwide Universities Network provides a platform on which researchers can collaborate on these issues, Scherer said. He says the $25,000 Research Mobility Fund, which is available year round from the U of A's Worldwide Universities Network office, is useful in helping researchers make the first step towards developing larger research initiatives.

> "Researchers can apply and use the funds to visit colleagues in other countries within the network and bring back what they learned to the U of A."
>
> Stefan Scherer

"The hope is that researchers will use this fund to establish sustainable collaborations that allow them to apply for actual research grants," Scherer said. "If a U of A researcher forms a partnership with a colleague in a British university, for example, they could then form a research initiative on an issue related to world health, and could bring their research proposal to the World Health Organization."

He says such a team would have a greater chance of being successful because it belongs to the Worldwide Universities Network, which is an established network of researchers. "This fund should allow researchers to establish the relationship with other researchers that would make for such an outcome."

Chantel Nixon, U of A graduate student, and John England, a researcher in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, recently used the fund to travel and attend a conference at the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom. The pair say that at the meeting they met world-renowned researchers who study ice sheets and sea level changes, and had the chance to receive information on the most recent research on ice sheets and deglaciation, from a study by more than 30 researchers.

The U of A is the only Canadian university currently in the network, which bills itself as one of the leading international higher education networks, collaborating to accelerate the creation of knowledge and to develop leaders who will be prepared to address the significant challenges, and opportunities, of the rapidly changing world. To that end, the Worldwide Universities Network provides its own funding support throughout its Research Development Fund to researchers within the network.

"The Research Development Fund allows researchers to bring together a bigger group of other researchers and conduct workshops to discuss research topics. From that, researchers can work with their partners to develop a research initiative and apply for research funding," said Scherer.

Andy Knight, U of A political science researcher, is a recent recipient of the fund. Knight recently organized a conference at the U of A—Xeno-Racism & Extremism: Fragmegration Patterns in Muslim Populations in North America and Europe—which brought researchers from around the world to explore the causes of extremism.

Applications for the Research Development Fund are accepted once a year at the U of A's Worldwide Universities Network office. And each institution within the network is allowed three applications each year. Put together, Scherer says support from the Worldwide Universities Network puts researchers in a good position to further their studies.

"Using this network, researchers can form clusters and then be able to access funding in other countries and from international research organizations," Scherer said.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Jan 14, 2011

The John H. Meier, Jr. Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction Collection. This exhibition presents examples of first editions of all the titles that have won Canada's prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction, from its inception to the present. Admission is free. Noon–4:30 p.m. Rutherford Library, North and South.

Until Jan 15

Dialogue of the Domestic: Anna House. This exhibition is the final visual presentation for the degree of Master of Fine Arts in Painting. (Please note The Fine Arts Building Gallery will be closed from Dec. 24 through Jan. 4, 2011. The gallery will reopen in Jan. 5, 2011.) 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Fine Arts Building Gallery.

Poem for a homebody: Lindsay Knox. This exhibition is the final visual presentation for the degree of Master of Fine Arts in Drawing and Intermedia. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Fine Arts Building Gallery.

Jan 7

Orthodontics Bears Den 2011. Orthodontics Alumni Bears Den event Invitation to all Ortho alumni, staff, residents, family and friends to the annual Ortho Bears Den to be held at the Bears Den, Clare Drake Arena. For more information and to RSVP, go to www.ualberta.ca/alumni/orthobearsden.

Golden Bears Hockey vs University of British Columbia Thunderbirds 7:30 p.m. Clare Drake Arena. www.bears.ualberta.ca

Jan 7–9

Panda's Volleyball Invitational. Match times and opponents TBD Main Gym http://www.pandas.ualberta.ca.

Jan 8

Golden Bears Hockey vs University of British Columbia 7:30 p.m. Clare Drake Arena. www.bears.ualberta.ca

Jan 10

Deadline – Study Abroad: Killam Fellowships Program (USA). Open to undergraduate students in all faculties. Students can apply for a direct exchange to study for a term/year in the United States at one of the Killam Fellowships partner institutions. NOTE: Students must meet with an advisor in order to submit a complete application for the Killam Fellowships Program. For more information about the Killam program, please visit www.killamfellowships.com/index.php.

Art Therapy Presentation. Come learn about the art therapy profession, what it is, what it's not, what training you need, and what work opportunities are available to professional art therapists. Register by calling 780-439-7311 ext. 21 or e-mail meers@ualberta.ca 1–3 p.m., St. Stephen's College.

Jan 13

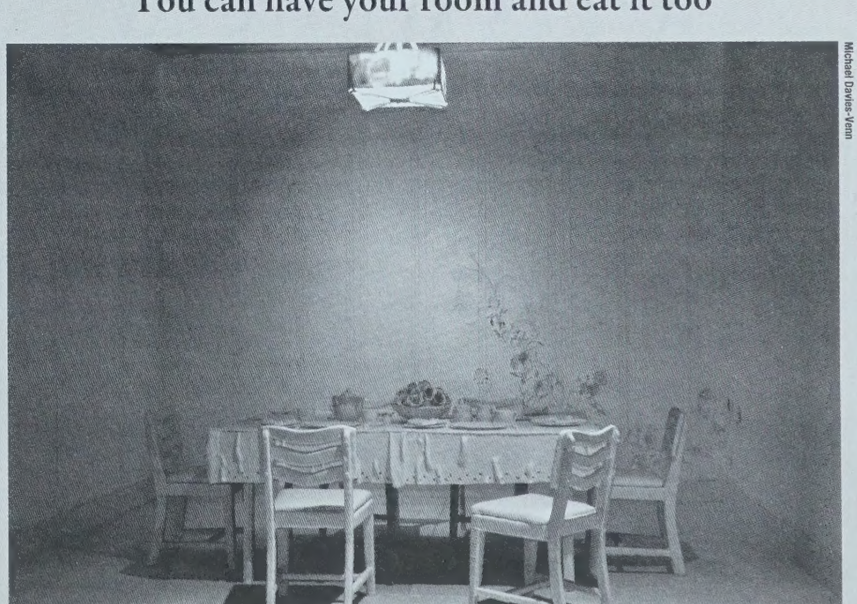
U of A Calgary Centre Speaker Series: Chinese investments in the Canadian economy: The leading edge of a wave? The emergence of China as a leading source of investment in Canada is a recent phenomenon. In Alberta, Chinese investment is centered on our energy sector but this is simply the leading edge of a much larger wave of investment. Join Gordon Houlden, U of A China Institute director, as he discusses Chinese investment in the Canadian economy. RSVP by Jan. 6 to 403-718-6375 or calgary@ualberta.ca 4:30–6:45 p.m. www.calgary.ualberta.ca.

Jan 14

Golden Bears and Panda's Volleyball vs University of Regina Cougars Panda's to follow at 8 p.m. 6:30 p.m. Main Gym. www.bears.ualberta.ca

Panda's Hockey vs University of Lethbridge Pronghorns 7 p.m. Clare Drake Arena. www.pandas.ualberta.ca

You can have your room and eat it too



Michael Davies-Venn

Anna House's MFA thesis exhibition, Dialogue of the Domestic, is on display in the FAB Gallery until Jan. 15. Her main attraction, The Memory Room, consists of three-plus-metre-high walls encircling the 23 square-metre area completely covered in a mixture of cake icing, creating a solemn image of a dining room, complete with cups, cutlery, floor tiles, table cloth, light fixtures and a flower bouquet—all of which are hand-carved from the mixture. House says the room helps to answer the question of what is left after the meals have been cooked and eaten, families have argued and people have loved.

laurels

Charlie Arshad, professor in the Department of Renewable Resources, received the Soil Science Distinguished Service Award from the Soil Society of America.

Jeff Bisanz, professor in the Department of Psychology, received the inaugural Westbury Legacy Award from the Alberta Centre for Child, Family and Community Research for his work as Community-University Partnership research director.

Gino Fallone, professor in the Department of Oncology, received the Order of Merit for Labour from Italy's Order of Knighthood.

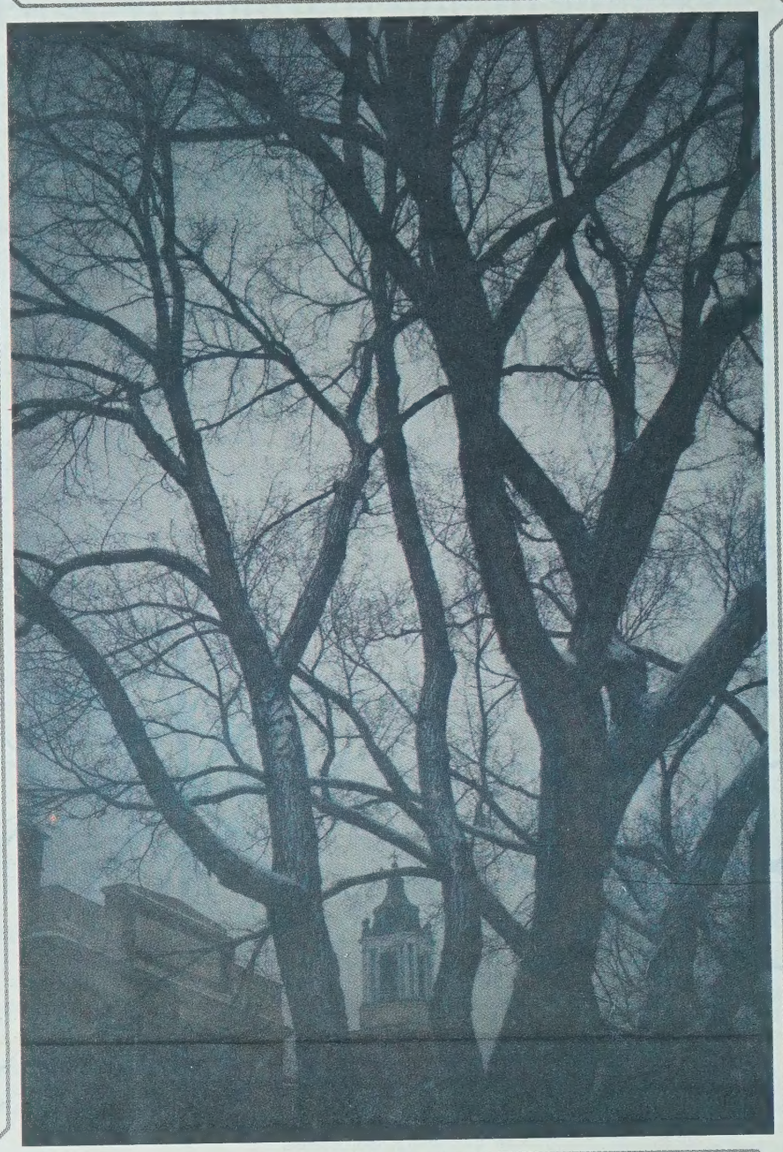
Ben Roston, professor in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, has been name a Fellow of Engineers Canada.

Alexander Penin, professor in the Department of Physics, was named Mercator Visiting Professor by the German Research Foundation.

Marie-Claire Shanahan, professor in the Department of Elementary Education, was named a National Association for Research in Science Teaching International Committee Early Career Scholar.

Carla Peck, professor in the Department of Elementary Education, has received the Pat Clifford Award for Early Career Research in Education from the Canadian Education Association.

Nancy Melnychuk, professor in the Department of Secondary Education, has received the R Tait McKenzie Award of Honour from Physical and Health Education Canada.



OLD MAN WINTER *presents*

A CAMPUS WINTER TALE

the *BackPage*

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 2
Royal Society makes its presence known
RSC weighs in on the oilsands with help from a chunk of its U of A membership

Page 3
Giving the small a voice
U of A creates Scholar in Residence for Arts Research in Nanotechnology

Page 8
Redoing Canada
Law students get crack at rewriting the Canadian constitution

Volume 48 Issue 9 | January 14, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

U of A community urged to take precautions during flu season

Folio Staff

Coinciding with the start of the winter term is the heart of this year's flu season.

The University Health Centre wants to remind everyone to practise proper health techniques and is offering the following tips from Alberta Health and Wellness on how to stay healthy this winter:

- If ill, stay home from work or school and avoid public places.
- One of the best ways to prevent influenza is to get the influenza vaccine every year. Flu shots are available on a walk-in basis to staff and students at the University Health Centre located on the second floor of the Students' Union Building from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.
- Clean hands frequently, especially after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose. Wash your hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (min. 62 per cent alcohol-based recommended).
- Cough or sneeze into your sleeve rather than your hand.
- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth after shaking hands or touching hard surfaces like counters and door handles or other surfaces that may contain influenza and other viruses.

Moreover, if you think you have the flu, Alberta Health and Wellness says practice self-care and stay home from work or school until you are able to resume daily activities, whichever is shorter.

The UHC also wants to remind everyone that Norovirus is present in the community at the present time. Symptoms include vomiting, diarrhea and stomach cramps.

The Norovirus is easily spread. The main source of the virus is stool (feces) and vomit from infected persons. The virus is most often spread from person-to-person on unwashed hands. The virus can also be spread by food, water or ice that has been handled by a sick person. Vomiting may spread the virus through the air.

Continued on page 2

Supplied

University of Alberta physicist Darren Grant snaps a photo of himself in Antarctica where his low-energy neutrino-detection system was installed.

U of A physicist first Canadian on project in Antarctica

Suzette Chan

There are ice sculptures and ice hotels, and now there is a particle detector made of ice. IceCube is the world's largest neutrino observatory and scientists expect that, among other mysteries, it will yield data that may illuminate dark matter.

The IceCube detector, located at the U.S. National Science Foundation's Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station, was completed Dec.18 with the installation of a final string of optical sensors into a one cubic-kilometre section of ice that is both the detector's medium and vessel.

The final deployed sensor string of the observatory is part of the low-energy neutrino detection system, called DeepCore, designed by a team led by University of Alberta physicist Darren Grant. Grant established Canada's first institutional presence in the IceCube collaboration, which includes more than 30 universities and research centres from around the world, including its lead institution, the University of Wisconsin.

A neutrino is an electrically neutral particle that travels close to the speed of light. It is of scientific interest because it can make an exceptional probe for typically concealed environments.

"The ice at the South Pole is an ideal detector medium for neutrinos," explains Grant, a professor who joined the U of A's Department of Physics in 2010.

"At the deepest depths the ice is incredibly pure. Light produced when a neutrino interacts in the deep ice can travel large distances (over 100 metres) without being scattered or absorbed. This means you can build a very large optical detector for the universe's highest energy neutrinos."

> "To use a phrase, [the U of A really is] at the tip of the iceberg for the scientific potential this detector makes possible."
>
> Darren Grant

The US$279 million experiment included the design and construction of a special hot-water drill that bored 86 holes into the ice to depths of 1,450 and 2,450 metres. A string of 60 sensors was lowered into each hole to make up the main IceCube and DeepCore detectors. Four additional sensors sit on top of the ice above each string, forming the IceTop array. The IceTop array, combined with the IceCube and DeepCore detectors, constitute the IceCube Observatory, whose sensors record neutrino interactions. Grant says IceCube is designed to operate for 15 to 20 years, after which it will be decommissioned.

"The heart of the detector, the optical modules and their electrical/signal cables, are now a permanent part of the Antarctic glacier," he says. "At a depth of 1.5 to 2.5 kilometres, there is no method to extract them again, and they are considered part of the ice. All other pieces of the detector, from the drill which deployed it, to the electronics and computers housed in the IceCube surface laboratory, will ultimately be removed from the continent when their role there is complete."

Having joined the experiment as a Penn State researcher in 2007, Grant, a Harrow, Ont. native has, participated in all phases of the experiment, including designing, building, testing and installing the DeepCore modules. The latter task gave him the opportunity to work in the Antarctic.

While the completion of the detector is a milestone for the experiment, IceCube actually started taking data as it was being built.

"So far, we have used the data from the partially constructed detector to place world-leading limits in searches for dark matter and astrophysical neutrino sources," Grant says. "But the real discovery potential of this observatory is in the full cubic-kilometre detector, which is now complete.

"I am most excited that at the University of Alberta we will be leading a number of the dark matter searches with the full detector and be the first in the world to begin stringent testing of some of the popular theoretical models for this most important physics problem. To use a phrase, for which I probably won't be forgiven, we really are now at the tip of the iceberg for the scientific potential this detector makes possible."

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folio

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Royal Society of Canada flexes its expertise

Michael Brown

The Royal Society of Canada has taken up the challenge of navigating through the issues surrounding some of Canada's most pressing questions, using a portion of its University of Alberta membership on the voyage.

In October of 2009, the Royal Society of Canada—the senior national academy of distinguished Canadian scholars, artists and scientists—announced the commissioning of four expert panels, one of which was chaired by Steve Hrudey, U of A professor emeritus of analytical and environmental toxicology, to look into the environmental and health impacts of Canada's oilsands industry.

Among those chosen for Hrudey's seven-person panel were U of A royal society members André Plourde, professor of economics; Zhenghe Xu, professor in the Faculty of Engineering and Canada Research Chair in Mineral Processing; and Anne Naeth, professor of ecology, land reclamation, revegetation and restoration ecology.

In the past, the RSC has responded to requests from governments or other agencies who wanted to sponsor expert panels that maintained a process that would prevent sponsors from exercising influence over those panels. This time around, however, the RSC commissioned the panels using strictly their own resources.

In 2009 the RSC committee on expert panels decided the society itself should sponsor a new series of expert panels, deciding on four issues that Hrudey says, "Canadians should have an interest in, and where Canadians could benefit from having an independent perspective that is not trying to support any particular stakeholder view."

He added that the RSC's decision to go at it alone was particularly important in the case of the oilsands review.

"All the information out there is put out by one stakeholder or another," said Hrudey. "Obviously government has one perspective, industry has another and the environmental groups have perspectives and they are all trying to convince you that you should believe them."

> "The thing about these panels is we set out only to inform Canadians; we aren't trying to convince Canadians of anything."
>
> Steve Hrudey

In December 2010, the panel released a 438-page report that found fault with the media and environmental groups' portrayal of the oilsands, but saved most of its criticism for the industry-funded body responsible for monitoring oilsands, as well as the provincial and federal governments. The report also concluded that reclamation in Canada's oilsands is not keeping pace with development, which could leave the public vulnerable to major financial burdens in years to come. However, the report also dismissed claims concerning the destructive nature of oilsands development and its negative impact on health.

Plourde says he thinks the report was well received, thanks to the standing of the RSC and the realization that none of the researchers "had an axe to grind."

"It was really an attempt to try to get to a state of what we know and what we don't know about these things," said Plourde. "That part of the exercise was really understood, which was really gratifying."

Beside the close look at oilsands, the RSC took on debates surrounding end-of-life decision making, marine biodiversity and challenges posed by climate change, and early childhood development.

"The thing about these panels is we set out only to inform Canadians; we aren't trying to convince Canadians of anything. Panelists volunteer their time and these reports are done as a public service."

For Plourde, the interesting part of it was the breadth of backgrounds that were brought into help resolve the issue.

"It allowed us to do reviews of all kinds of different things given that we had a lot of expertise in a wide range of areas," he said. "The report cuts through a wide swath of literature and evidence to come to some indication of the kinds of things we know a lot about, the things we know a lot less about and places where we noticed discrepancies.

"It was a really useful exercise."

U of A accepting students for rural physical-therapy program in Camrose

Laurie Wang

There is a shortage of physical therapists in Alberta's rural communities, and the University of Alberta's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine has found a way to meet the need.

The faculty and the Department of Physical Therapy have received funding from Alberta Advanced Education and Technology to enrol another cohort into the master of science physical therapy (MSc PT) rural satellite program at the U of A's Augustana Campus in Camrose. The physical therapy program is currently accepting applications for fall 2011, and 10 students will be admitted to the program on the Augustana campus. Augustana students "attend" most classes via real-time, high-definition video conferencing. Along with the Edmonton instructors connected via technology from Corbett Hall on the university's North Campus, the Augustana students have a local instructor/teaching assistant for each course. Students from both cohorts can see and interact with each other simply by talking to the large television screens in classrooms and laboratories and cameras at both sites allow for zooming in for a close view of hands-on skill techniques. Ten students started the MSc PT program in September 2010 and have embraced the format.

"I would definitely recommend [this style of instruction.] Using the synchronized distance learning technology every day to attend classes doesn't feel any different and we receive the same excellent clinical teaching and attention from our instructors," says Alaina Risi, a first-year physical-therapy student in the Camrose program.

Risi saw the need for physical therapists when she worked with the Augustana Vikings and helped in their training. "They had to drive to all the way to Wetaskiwin to receive physiotherapy," she said.

Risi says being in Camrose has helped her see how physical therapy in rural Alberta works, and she's surrounded by the very people she could be helping. "When I talk to people about the physical therapy program in Camrose, they're very excited. They can't wait for us to open up a student clinic here. I'm excited for the clinical experience in a rural community."

According to Statistics Canada, as of 2009, there were 1,722 practicing physical therapists in Alberta and only 187 work in rural or remote areas, with 90.2 per cent of physical therapists working in urban centres, while only 9.8 per cent work in rural communities.

"We know there is a need for more rehabilitation professionals in rural Alberta. We launched this pilot project in partnership with former dean Roger Epp from Augustana Campus this past fall and we are pleased to know we are continuing the program for a second year," says Martin Ferguson-Pell, dean of the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine.

The vision to start the pilot program began with Ferguson-Pell, Epp, former dean of Rehabilitation Medicine Al Cook and chair of physical therapy Bob Haennel. The IT teams in Rehab Med, Augustana and the U of A's Academic Information and Communications Technology group helped make the unique distance learning technology possible.

Supplied

Another 10 Students will be admitted in 2011 to the satellite MScPT program at Augustana Campus in Camrose.

Agreement seeks improved research on tailings ponds

Richard Cairney

An agreement between the world's largest oilsands companies to share their knowledge and research into tailings management is an "unprecedented" measure that will speed environmental remediation, according to the firms.

Seven oilsands companies held a press conference at the University of Alberta Faculty of Engineering in December to announce they will share their knowledge and technologies used to manage tailings—a byproduct of the bitumen extraction process. This partnership will help the companies comply with the Government of Alberta-issued Directive 74, which requires oilsands operators to cut tailings in half by 2013.

This partnership acknowledges that "work done together can perhaps move faster than when done independently," said David Lynch, the dean of engineering. "The Faculty of Engineering has been doing research on tailings for 30 or 40 years—it is a major issue that is very technically challenging," Lynch added. "This agreement enables our researchers to go to an entirely new level with industry so that the best research can be developed collaboratively and subjected to the full international standards of scientific review."

David Sego, a professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and scientific director of the Oil Sands Tailings Research Facility, called the new arrangement "fantastic." Sego hosted the second international conference on oilsands tailings, also in December, which drew researchers from around the world to Edmonton, where up-to-date research on tailings was delivered.

He is excited about the agreement because, he says, current existing "field data" the oilsands companies have collected could enhance the impact of research conducted by graduate students who are studying ways to manage tailings.

"The body of knowledge and the innovation those students bring to the table will be improved. The researchers have to rise to the challenge."

Flu precautions

continued from page 1

To prevent the spread of the virus, the university has increased the frequency of the cleaning of commonly touched surfaces. Soap and paper will be more widely available in Lister Centre and laundry facilities will now be free for all residents to enable frequent washing as necessary. It should be noted that a person can be stricken with the Norovirus more than once, so always exercise the same precautions.

In th case of examinations, university policy now encourages students to stay home and get better, with a declaration being completed at the corresponding faculty office/registrar's office after they are feeling better.

For more information go to http://www.uhc.ualberta.ca.

The arts lend big voice to science of the small

Michael Davies-Venn

The University of Alberta has established a new Scholar in Residence for Arts Research in Nanotechnology. The program, initiated by the U of A's Office of the Vice-President (Research), is designed to encourage arts research in the field of nanotechnology by providing an opportunity for scholars in the arts to conduct research with colleagues in nanotechnology.

Heather Graves

Establishing the Scholar in Residence for Arts Research in Nanotechnology is the latest initiative to foster interdisciplinary research among scholars in the social sciences, humanities, engineering, creative arts and sciences. Lorne Babiuk, U of A vice-president (research), says the program furthers the university's commitment to interdisciplinary research. "The aim is to broaden the impact of the National Institute for Nanotechnology across the full spectrum of disciplines on campus, into areas that aren't normally a part of the nano-scientific process," he said.

George Pavlich, U of A associate vice-president (research), says the Scholar in Residence for Arts Research in Nanotechnology is groundbreaking. "With the establishment of this scholar in residence position, we believe a unique intersection and collaboration between science and the arts will result, with important implications for both," said Pavlich.

Pavlich says the arts scholar in residence program, based at NINT, will help sharpen the understanding and integration of nanotechnology into the broader community, as well as promote the work being done by nano-scientists.

Nils Petersen, NINT's director general, says the scholar in residence program adds value to the institute. "By having colleagues from the arts join us in telling our story, perhaps in non-traditional ways, we hope more Canadians will come to understand the potential of nanotechnology."

Pavlich agrees. "If, simultaneous with the discovery of some leading technological advance, we have a concurrent assessment of its social, political, economic, creative or legal impact, then we are likely to have an integrated initiative whose overall effects are more comprehensively understood."

Heather Graves, a U of A English and film studies researcher, will be the first to hold this novel scholar in residence position. She says she will examine how researchers in nanotechnology negotiate the ambiguities of language in their research.

"This is an opportunity to watch the discourse of the new field of nanotechnology emerge and the language usage negotiated among the experts involved," said Graves. "One of the things we hope that nanotechnologists will get out of our examination is a vocabulary that they can use to talk about what they do."

The scholar in residence program is a three-year pilot program, funded by Alberta Innovates Technology Futures.

Engineer joins pharmacists to improve drug delivery

Richard Cairney

Mechanical engineering professor Warren Finlay has taken on a collaborative project to improve drug delivery for lung-cancer patients.

Working with Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences researcher Raimar Lobenberg and Wilson Roa at the Cross Cancer Institute, Finlay helped devise a way to manufacture an inhalable powder that could effectively disperse chemotherapy drugs into a patient's lungs.

The team encapsulated chemotherapy drugs into nanoparticles that could be inhaled by patients with lung cancer. To keep the nanoparticles apart, they first freeze the particles in tiny ice-carrier particles before removing the ice to make a powder. The challenge then was to produce a powder that would not only make it into a patient's lungs, but also disperse the drugs effectively.

"The idea was to add in effervescent material inside the carrier particles that produces carbon dioxide gas. So when the particle lands in the lungs, it releases carbon dioxide gas and the nanoparticles are released over a much bigger region. They are dispersed beyond the landing site, which prevents the released nanoparticles from getting all stuck together."

Tests have showed that the inhalable dry powder was more effective than using a solution and IV injection of drug-bound nanoparticles.

Renewable resources department knows nature

Bev Betkowski

No one knows nature like the folks in the University of Alberta's Department of Renewable Resources.

Over the past decade or so, 12 academics from the department have written an astounding 102 nature guides, most issued by a single Canadian book company, Lone Pine Publishing, as well as some from the U of A Press.

The colourful, user-friendly books tell about fish, birds and animals, as well as trees and plants from of the United States, Canada, Mexico and Ecuador. Every one of the field guides is written by an U of A alumnus, professor or staffer.

"The sheer volume of nature books produced by the students and professors in the department speaks to their incredible talent, creativity and knowledge about the natural world," said chair John Spence, who is also a professor of renewable resources.

"The success of so many authors from one department is impressive, and what's great is, they're providing broad public access to information about the creatures that we share the world with, and supporting recreational pursuits."

The talent and knowledge of the U of A writers translates well into books, said Shane Kennedy, head of Lone Pine Publishing. The company has offices in Edmonton and in Washington State, and has published hundreds of publications since it started in 1980.

"The people who have graduated from the (renewable resources) department and then write for Lone Pine are natural communicators. Other graduates from the program may go onto professional scientific careers as lab researchers or government scientists. But the people who write for us have an innate talent for writing and educating," Kennedy added.

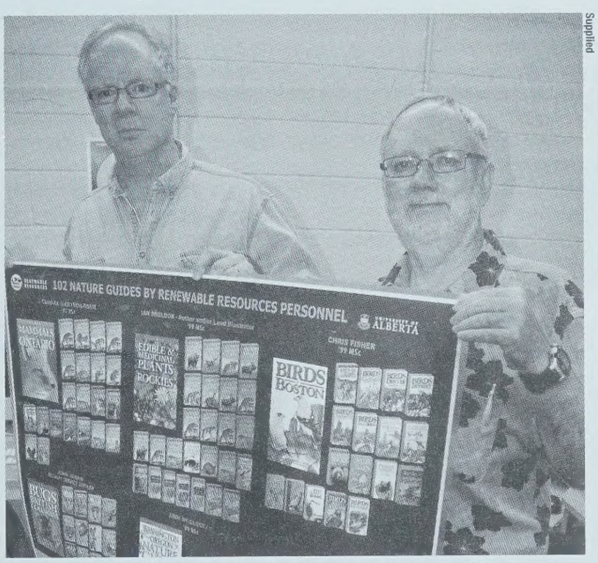
Ian Sheldon graduated from the U of A in 1999 with a master's degree in wildlands management and, over the past 15 years, has illustrated or written 27 of the books exploring everything from the seashores of British Columbia to the animal tracks of Florida and Alberta.

His motivation for the work is in sharing his love of the world's natural wonders. "It's education, it's reaching out to people. As a student of renewable resources, a lot of the focus for me was on ecotourism and wildlife management, and the writing I do now ties into that," Sheldon said.

The books, which take anywhere from one to seven years to write, depending on what other projects Sheldon has on the go, provide instant appeal and adventure, especially for children, he added.

"One of my favorite books is *Bugs of Alberta*. One lady told me she and her six-year-old son read one bug bedtime story a night—I just loved that. That boy, you never know, could end up becoming someone who is passionate about nature and changing our future in terms of conservation issues."

Spence added, "This sort of work is an excellent example of how careers, for many of us, are inseparable from life. These guides reflect a naturalist's approach to career and life."



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John Acorn, U of A staffer and guide author, and John Spence, chair of the Department of Renewable Resources, show a display of the 102 books written by 12 authors from the department.

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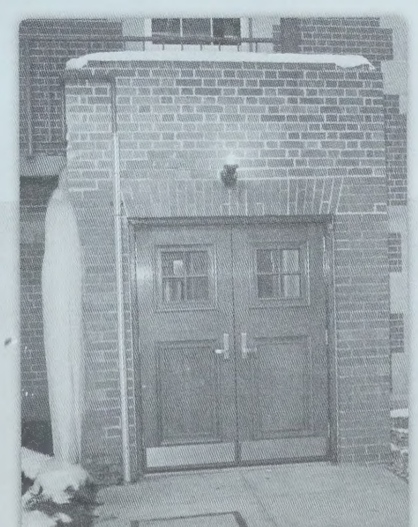
2) *"You helped me lose 35 pounds and my blood pressure has dropped significantly. My neck and shoulder pain, which I've had for more than 20 years, is also gone." - Senior staff member at the U of A*
3) *"In two months of treatment, Dr. He has helped alleviate pain from sciatica, disc bulges and inoperable spinal cysts." - Senior staff member at the U of A*

Are You a Winner?



Congratulations to Denise Young, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Dec. 17 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Young correctly identified the photo in question as being the pentecost window in the St Joseph's College Chapel. For her efforts, Young has won a collection of stories by the U of A's Rudy Wiebe. The book spans 50 years of Wiebe's literary works that define and refine prairie literature.

Up for grabs this week is a now-vintage, white "I wanted to buy one, but thought I would win one in folio" U of A Centenary t-shirts. To win, simply email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Jan. 21, and you will be entered into the draw.

Child Study Centre
University of Alberta ~ Faculty of Education

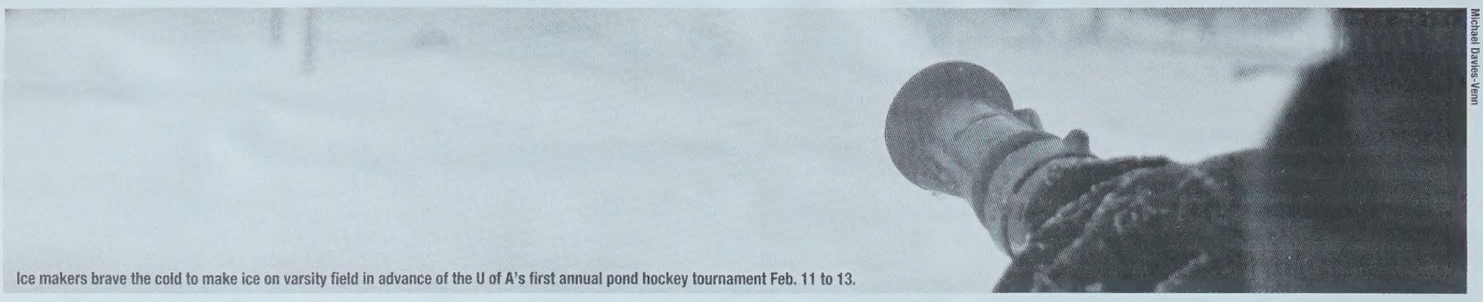
Junior Kindergarten (Education S. Bldg)
Now accepting registrations for 2011/2012.
- 2011/2012 pre-school program for children between the ages of 3.5 and 5 (age of 4 by February 28, 2012).
- inquiry-based with opportunities for in-depth investigation of children's ideas, questions, and interests
- music, art, dramatic play, creative movement, and physical education are important components of this exemplary program

For more information on registration for Jr. Kindergarten, visit our website, email, or call 780.492.7341.

Kindergarten to Grade 6 (Garneau School)
Kindergarten to Grade 6 registration for 2011/2012 begins **March 1, 2011**.
For more information on Kindergarten to Grade 6, visit our website, email, or call Garneau at 780.433.1390.

Information Evening
February 23, 2011
7:00 to 8:00 p.m., Room 464
Education South Building
University of Alberta

www.childstudycentre.ualberta.ca
childstudycentre@ualberta.ca



Michael Davies-Venn

Ice makers brave the cold to make ice on varsity field in advance of the U of A's first annual pond hockey tournament Feb. 11 to 13.

U of A's finance and administration looks only to enable

University 101

Michael Brown

In return for providing a teaching and learning environment rich with novel and new experiences, the biggest thing the University of Alberta asks of its students, faculty and staff is to dream big.

The Office of the Vice-President (Finance and Administration), leaders in finance, administration and human resources services, has the role of enabling those big dreams.

Phyllis Clark

"Any organization needs the kinds of things that are supplied out of my portfolio, so I have to do it in a way that supports the academic side of the institution as it needs to be supported," said Phyllis Clark, vice-president (finance and administration). "In a lot of ways, it is doing the things that are required to be done without getting in the way of the main mission's critical aspects."

Within a vibrant and supportive learning environment, Clark says her portfolio exists to enable discovery and to disseminate and apply new knowledge through teaching and learning, research and creative activity, community involvement and partnerships—either financially or through administration.

"It depends on the time of year, but the university's budget and the controls that go with it are always a major challenge," said Clark. "Financial statements are a big challenge every year, but so are human resources. People are our most important resource, so you have to make sure the human-resource things are done correctly. This means the proper design of pension and benefits for all staff, job evaluations, churning out the payroll and ensuring good non-academic labour relations."

The finance and administration office also oversees investments, safe disclosure and human rights, policy, strategic analysis, supply management, the Office of the Vice-Provost (Information Technology)—the administrative information systems (the provost oversees academic IT) and risk-management services.

"Risk management is a big chunk. It includes things like insurance, labs, doing health and safety checks on labs, the enterprise-wide risk management system and campus protection services," said Clark.

On top of that, finance and administration supplies the data and analysis for reports to government or for rankings data; it does the university's purchasing, runs the competitions for getting vendors, and then makes sure the campus delivery system runs smoothly.

While it may seem like a lot, once the system is in place, Clark says good people are the key to her office's successes.

"In my opinion, it is a whole lot easier to run things on the administrative side than it is on the non-administrative side," said Clark. "We have many things that are keep-it-going items in the sense that year-after-year you have to produce, such as the financial statements. There are challenges but it is not as if it is a completely new system that has to be introduced every year.

"My job is to make sure the people who report to me have the direction that enables them to do their job, the resources to do their job, and that I represent them in the various forums where they need representation.

Clark says that the keys to providing a good vision for how to make sure her office continues to be innovative and efficient starts with her people.

"The best thing I can do to make my office an asset to the university is hire good people, make sure the team works well together, have a vision of where the area should be in two and five years time, be kind, communicate well and laugh."

Business students begin new year with sweep of weekend competitions

Folio Staff

It was a winning weekend for two teams from the University of Alberta's School of Business. On Jan. 8 and 9 the Alberta MBA team walked away with the prestigious Queen's Cup, the top prize in the National MBA games, held this year at York University. The team, which took first place in the academic component, also nabbed the peer-voted Spirit Award and a second place trophy in the athletics division.

Meanwhile, in Winnipeg, a group of five students took first place in the 29th annual Manitoba International Marketing Competition, beating out 11 other teams from Europe, Africa and North America. The team was awarded the Walter Good Cup for solid performances in all aspects of the competition, including a presentation to a mixed corporate/ academic judging panel. Aside from the cup, the students also share a $4,000 prize.

"What a great beginning to the year and a great follow-up to our win in the Financial Executive International Best in Class competition," said Dean Mike Percy. "The engagement of our students in competitions, international study tours and exchanges, and in our community is part of an incredible culture here at the school. Engagement brings excellence."

Board decisions from December meeting

Michael Brown

At their December meeting, the University of Alberta's Board of Governors approved several fee increases for the 2011–2012, as well as changes to the Lister Hall Meal Plan Program.

On a recommendation of the Board Finance and Property Committee, the board approved a general fee increase effective Sept. 1, which includes a .35 per cent increase to both tuition and differential fees.

The increase means arts and science undergraduate students taking a full slate of classes, for example, will see the cost of next academic year's studies increase $18. The board also approved a separate differential-fee increase of .35 per cent for the bachelor of laws, master's of business administration and doctor of medicine programs.

The board also approved annual increases for three years to each level of the Lister Hall Meal Plan Program to align directly with the Consumer Price Index for food in the Alberta region. Next year students on the first three tiers of the meal plan will see an increase of 7.7 per cent, while the fourth tier will see no increase.

Then the price will increase by 2.5 per cent across all tiers in each of the next two years to keep pace with forecasted increases to the CPI. The proposal will also see Ancillary Services phase out the lowest-cost plan by 2013–2014, thus offering just three levels.

The board also approved a 2011–2012 rate increase of between .8 to two per cent for rent of U of A residences. For example, those students who rent a single room in Lister Hall for eight months will see a one per cent rent increase, which equates to $5 per month.

Finally, the board approved a new Shared Credential Policy to regulate the process through which faculties and departments of the U of A will approach establishing shared-credential programs, where the name of the U of A is cited on the degree parchment awarded by another institution or vice versa.

2011-2012 Killam Annual Professorships

Les Fiducies Killam Trusts

Applications are invited for the 2011-2012 Killam Annual Professorships. All regular, continuing, full-time academic faculty members who are not on leave during 2011-2012 are eligible to apply. Deans, Department Chairs and other senior University administrators with personnel responsibilities shall not normally be eligible for Killam Annual Professorships. Associate Deans and Associate Department Chairs are eligible providing they do not have personnel responsibilities. Up to eight Killam Annual Professors will be selected by a subcommittee of the Killam Trusts Committee; no more than two Professorships shall be awarded to staff members in any one faculty in any given year. Each Killam Annual Professor shall be presented with a $3,500 prize and a commemorative plaque. The duties of Killam Annual Professors shall not be changed from those that they regularly perform as academic staff members.

The primary criterion for selection shall be a record of outstanding scholarship and teaching over three or more years as evidenced by any or all of research publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students, and courses taught. The secondary criterion shall be a record of substantial contributions to the community outside the University, above and beyond what is usually expected of a professor, as evidenced by community involvement normally directly linked to the applicant's University responsibilities and activities. However, other forms of community involvement will be considered, especially, but not exclusively, where the applicant's discipline does not readily lend itself to making community contributions, and also where the university's reputation is clearly enhanced by the applicant's contributions.

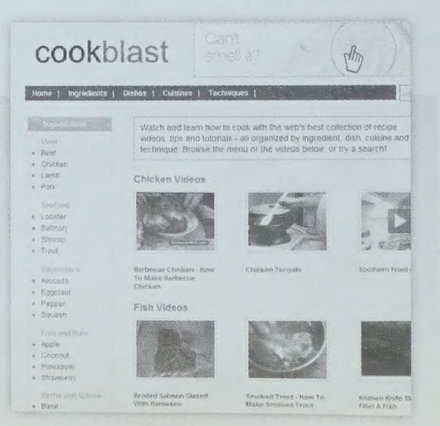
Awards are tenable for twelve months commencing July 1, 2011. The completed application must be received at the Office of the Vice-President (Research), 1-20 University Hall, by 4:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 18, 2011. The awardees shall be announced by early May, and they will be formally recognized at the Killam Luncheon in the fall of 2011.

Applications and further details are available on the home page of the Vice-President (Research) at http://www.research.ualberta.ca.

Please contact Annette Kujda, administrative officer, Office of the Vice-President (Research) at extension 2-8342 or email **annette.kujda@ualberta.ca** if you have any questions.

surf city

Starting the new year planning to eat better is one thing, planning to cook better is another. Cookblast (http://cookblast.com/) takes the average cookbook a step further. Like other foodie sites, Cookblast offers up recipes, instructions and suggestions sorted by regional cuisine, ingredients needed and ease of preparation, but it also offers video instructions for your cooking education. They also feature tips and tricks (you can search by technique), allowing you to perfect your cooking craft to a greater degree. From canning to roasting, it's like having your very own cooking channel.



PhD helps power hybrid sports car

Supplied

Electrical engineering PhD student Jeff Ewanchuk has played an important role in the development of the Future Vehicle Technologies' car, the eVaro.

Richard Cairney

When the Discovery Channel broadcast a new documentary entitled *X Cars* Jan. 6, some of the work by electrical engineering PhD student Jeff Ewanchuk was in the spotlight.

Ewanchuk, who is conducting leading-edge research on power conversion, provided indispensable knowledge to Vancouver-based Future Vehicle Technologies. With Ewanchuk's help, the company produced one of the most efficient vehicles in the X-Car competition—an international contest sponsored by the X-Prize Foundation.

"My research focus is power electronics in high-speed electric motors and the conversion of DC to AC power used to drive motors found, for example, in electric vehicles," said Ewanchuk, who earned his degree in electrical engineering at the U of A in 2006 and has returned to work on his PhD. "In electric vehicles a car has a DC battery and the motors are AC systems."

Ewanchuk stepped in to help the company a year ago, as it struggled with power conversion issues. Ewanchuk travelled to Vancouver and rewrote the "drive" side of the car's software for the first road test of the X-Car competition.

But new challenges arose because the vehicle had been tuned to operate on a rolling chassis dynamometer—the automotive equivalent of a treadmill for runners. In road tests, the vehicle was overheating.

To fine-tune the system, Ewanchuk and an FTV team member drove around Vancouver in the futuristic-looking car, stopping from time to time to rewrite software.

"We spent a few days on weekends driving around Vancouver and stopping and working on our laptops and we'd draw huge crowds of people," Ewanchuk says.

> "We found out that if you try to go to a fast-food drive-through, you have to figure out how the driver is going to pass food back to the passenger."
>
> Jeff Ewanchuk

"We'd be driving down the freeway and people would be following us, and taking video of us with their cell phones. The first time I drove by myself, the police decided to follow me—I think they were confused about whether it was a legal car so they were running the plate."

Built with three wheels to reduce drag and optimize its aerodynamic teardrop shape, the company's car, called the eVaro, drives unlike any other car, Ewanchuk says.

"It is very, very nimble because it is like a three-wheel motorcycle; it's very quick and handles very sharp," he said. "It feels strange to drive it, at first. There is no shifting because there is no transmission—you just feel constant acceleration."

A hybrid sports car with a gas tank that tops up at 2.2 U.S. gallons, the eVaro's energy efficiency averages at the equivalent of more than 200 miles per gallon in combined city and highway driving—with a top speed of 200 km/h.

Interestingly, during the on-road sessions Ewanchuk and his FVT partner discovered a design challenge unrelated to power conversion but nonetheless important: the two seats in the car are configured in tandem—one in front of the other—and covered by a glass canopy.

"We found out that if you try to go to a fast-food drive-through, you have to figure out how the driver is going to pass food back to the passenger," said Ewanchuk.

Future Vehicle Technologies president George Parker says his vehicle is the first fuel efficient designed commuter car. And he says the company has benefitted tremendously from Ewanchuk's expertise.

"Jeff has turned out to be kind of a miracle worker for us—he is a guy who has expertise in areas we don't have. When he is finished and has his degrees we want to hire him full time," said Parker. "He is not available, as far as we are concerned, to anybody else. I don't think there is anybody out there who can touch what he does."

Being there for an APPLE every day

Andrea Lauder

A passion for health and a dedication to teaching and mentoring. These are things that Marg Schwartz brings to her work and her life each and every day.

Marg Schwartz

As project manager with the Alberta Project Promoting Active Living & Healthy Eating in Schools (APPLE Schools) at the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta, Schwartz works with facilitators in each school in which the program operates.

Schwartz's passion is among the reasons why she recently received the North American Society Fellowship Award from Physical and Health Education Canada. She was recognized as one of Canada's leading health and physical education professionals for her commitment to ensuring that Canadian children and youth live physically active and healthy lives.

"It is so gratifying to know that a lifespan of my work has been recognized by this national body," said the U of A alumna.

APPLE Schools develops health-promoting school environments where it is easy for children to make healthy choices, improve eating habits and physical activity levels. This contributes to reducing the risk for chronic disease by decreasing obesity. Schwartz works with facilitators operating in schools, developing programs and activities to help the entire school community eat nutritious foods, stay active and learn about healthy choices.

Schwartz remembers the first time she heard Paul Veugelers, professor and APPLE Schools unit director, talk about the impact of physical activity on obesity levels in schoolchildren. "I was drawn in by hearing him measure what I 'did' at my job each day. I was excited and interested to work on a project like this. He has given validation to the work done in schools."

The APPLE Schools program is growing, recently adding four more schools in Fort McMurray. It is a point of pride for Schwartz to know that she has a hand in the training and maintenance of this program.

"I see them now using the same techniques I trained them with as they turn around and train the next group of school facilitators," said Schwartz. "I get passionate about bringing together people with great minds."

When asked what keeps her motivated each day, Schwartz says, "I love the energy that working with people gives me. At the end of the day, some of my closest lifetime friends are those that I have worked with."

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Alberta's ants get a recount two by two

Michael Brown

Identifying the nest of ants that just made off with your picnic just became exponentially more onerous.

James Glasier, a master's student in the Department of Renewable Resources, has put his fascination with ants to good use by more than doubling the number of known species that call this province home.

In the 1960s, University of Alberta concluded that Alberta was home to 40 species of ants. Since Glasier started his research two years ago, he has found 85 species.

"Before this work, it was thought Alberta had a lack of ant diversity and now, with close to 90 species discovered, [the province] actually has relatively high diversity for being so northerly," said Glasier.

Glasier says the majority of his work has been done around Edmonton, specifically in the Sand Hills near Opal, Bruderheim and Redwater, where he is doing research on ant habitat associations and the effects of fire on ants.

"However, I have collected ants from across the province and have had lots of help from my colleagues in getting specimens," said Glasier. "Ants are pretty adaptable and can be found in a surprisingly diverse type of locations. One of the most unique locations was be my friend's apartment, which was on the 27th floor."

Glasier says he decided to work on ant biodiversity in Alberta because ants are important organisms to provincial ecosystems. He explains they turn over the soil as much as worms and are major contributors to breaking down wood. Ants are important predators of insects; they are important food sources for many vertebrates like bears and woodpeckers, and they are important in dispersing seeds of small herbaceous plants such as violets.

"With such a significant and diverse role in Alberta's ecosystems, it was surprising to find the last diversity study of ants in our province was in 1966 by Professor Janet Sharplin of the University of Alberta, who had found 40 species," he said. "When I had learned that I decided that a good project would be to expand on that work."

Glasier, who would like to do a PhD, says he suspects there are more species of ants out there and he is intent on finding them.

"I'm sure a few more species are living out there just waiting to be found," he said, adding there are so many stones still unturned.

"The first time came across the arboreal carpenter ant, I was up about 33 feet in a treehouse and looked under a tarp and there, under the tarp, was an entire colony of this ant. Completely unexpected, but quite neat."

Supplied

Manica hunteri ant.

New species of flying reptile identified on B.C. coast

Brian Murphy

Persistence has paid off for a University of Alberta paleontology researcher who, after months of pondering the origins of a fossilized jaw bone, finally identified it as a new species of pterosaur, a flying reptile that lived 70 million years ago.

Victoria Arbour says she was stumped when the small piece of jaw bone was first pulled from a fossil storage cabinet in the U of A's paleontology department.

"It could have been from a dinosaur, a fish or a marine reptile," she said. Arbour, a PhD student in paleontology, says the first clue to the fossil's identify came after she compared it to known species of pterosaurs. "I found a published paper describing the teeth of a previously discovered pterosaur and ours was very close," said Arbour.

"The teeth of our fossil were small and set close together," she said. "They reminded me of piranha teeth, designed for pecking away at meat." That led Arbour to believe her new species, named *Gwawinapterus beardi*, was a scavenger of the late Cretaceous period. "It had a wingspan of about three metres and patrolled the sky and set down to feed on the leftover kills made by predator dinosaurs of the time such as Albertosaurus."

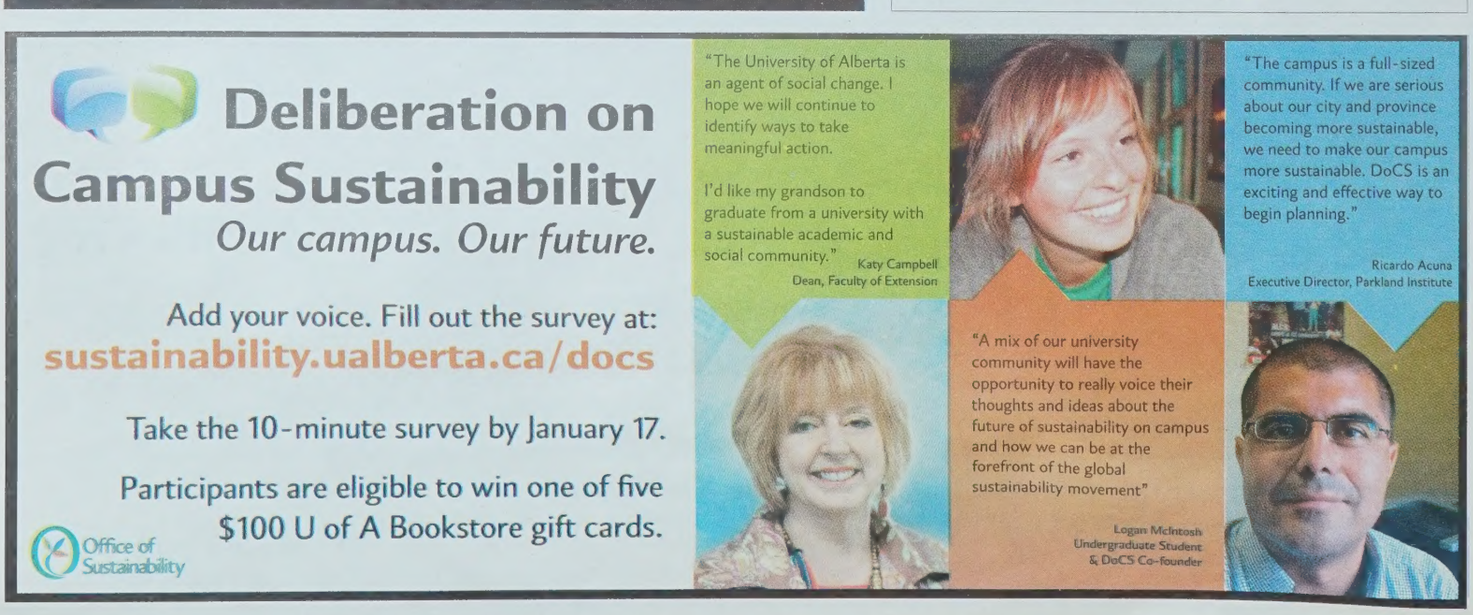
The fossil is not only a new species; it's also the first pterosaur of any kind to be found in British Columbia. It was found on Hornby Island, off the coast of Vancouver Island. Arbour says that 70 million years ago, when that pterosaur existed, Hornby Island was nowhere near its present location.

"In the late Cretaceous period, the B.C. coastal islands were about 2,500 kilometres to the south and part of what is now mainland California," said Arbour.

Arbour's research was published online earlier this month in the *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*.

Supplied

Vicki Arbour holds a fossilized jaw bone from a Gwawinapterus beardi, which may have resembled the artist's rendition in the background.



Physicist searching to understand the mysterious ways of the Crab Nebula

Brian Murphy

The discovery that a celestial light, thought for the last 30 years to be unwavering in its intensity—but is in fact prone to mysterious bursts of energy—has a University of Alberta researcher scratching his head.

Although physics professor Craig Heinke co-wrote a paper on the strange behaviour of the Crab Nebula, he's not sure why it began emitting huge flares. "Last fall, two space-telescope satellites, the Italian AGILE and NASA's Fermi, detected uncharacteristic surges of gamma rays (high-energy light) coming from the Crab Nebula."

Heinke says the flares lasted just a few days, energizing particles to levels rarely seen since the first millionth of a second after the Big Bang. "We're seeing particles accelerated to energies 100 times larger than the Large Hadron Collider, to speeds just below the speed of light," said Heinke. The Large Hadron Collider is the particle accelerator near Geneva that researchers from around the world are using to find out about the universe's origins and the nature of matter.

The Crab Nebula, so called because an astronomer thought it resembled the pincers of a crab, is the remnants of a dead star that became a cloud of gas and high-speed particles. The supernova explosion that created it was seen in the night sky by Chinese astronomers in 1054. The Crab Nebula is 6,000 light years from Earth, but still bright enough in the visible light spectrum that even amateur astronomers can see it. However, Heinke says evidence of flaring in the nebula only shows up on equipment that measures light at the very high-energy level of gamma rays.

"It was the Crab Nebula's stability at those high levels of light that encouraged astronomers to use it as a reference point to calibrate their gamma-ray and X-ray telescopes," said Heinke.

Now that its stability is in question, Heinke says researchers will focus more attention on the nebula using an international team of satellites. Heinke says that while nebulae have been linked to the formation of new stars, planets and even galaxies, the Crab Nebula is probably still millions of years away from that kind of transformation.

"The most interesting thing about the flaring from the Crab Nebula is the particle acceleration it produces," said Heinke. "Billions of dollars were spent to artificially create near-light speed particle acceleration at the LHC, and now we can observe it happening naturally in outer space."

Heinke's co-written research was published online Jan. 6 in *Science*.

This is a combined NASA satellite telescope image of the Crab Nebula. (Image Credit: NASA/CXC/F. Seward, NASA/ESA/ASU/J. Hester, NASA/JPL/U. Minn./R. Gehrsz.)

Playful book ponders Alberta's soul

Geoff McMaster

If nothing else, Alberta is a province mired in contradiction.

Some would argue that the province is filled with conservative rednecks, yet there is political tradition steeped in liberal ideology. Citizens champion an individualistic frontier spirit, but strong and fruitful community bonds thrive. Strangely enough, says local writer and filmmaker Geo Takach, it doesn't seem the least bit unnatural to live with these uneasy tensions; they are perhaps precisely what defines the Alberta soul.

"In other parts of Canada, these could be critical and even absurd contradictions. Out here, they fit right in," writes Takach in his latest release from University of Alberta Press, *Will the Real Alberta Please Stand Up?* In this playful and informative treatise, the three-time graduate of the U of A ponders how a province that revels in its four-wheel-drive "macho rep" also "rocks the cradle of feminism," producing "the first double-x-chromosome chief justice and big-city police chief in Canada, the first female magistrate, the first female MLAs and the second female cabinet minister in the British Empire, as well as some reasonably outrageous drag queens."

Or, as he writes in a long list of incongruous cultural juxtapositions, "where else could a capital city host a summer festival that's tawdry, anachronistic and dubiously appropriate historically (Klondike Days, recently rebranded as "Capital Ex" in a concession to modernity, if not to grandly failed marriages or maybe even laxatives), along with some of the most progressive theatre this side of the Great White Way?"

Now is the time for some honest reflection on the paradox that is Wild Rose Country, argues Takach, to root out self-perceptions born of stereotypes and get to the heart of the real Alberta experience. It seems that, for all of the attention Alberta has been getting of late, we may be the least understood province, "a riddle wrapped in a saucy donair—classically beef but not always—and still largely distant to most outsiders."

Raised in Quebec by parents who had fled then-communist Hungary, he describes driving into Edmonton for the first time as a teenager, "through refinery row and fearing that my own notions of Alberta as an oil-rigger's wasteland—pre-installed at the plant back in central Canada—were correct."

But as he came of age, he found himself growing fiercely proud of his adoptive province, celebrating it with a convert's zeal throughout his multifaceted career. The fruits of those reflections are offered with the humorist's ironic touch in *Will the Real Alberta Please Stand Up?*

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Students take shot at resetting Canada's foundation

Michael Brown

teaching & learning, learning & teaching

University of Alberta Law students are getting a chance to test the theory that hindsight is 20/20 by heading back in time to rewrite the blueprints for the formation of Canada.

Law professors James Muir and Peter Carvers have introduced an innovative course in Canadian constitutional history and law, entitled "The Making of the Canadian Constitution," using teaching methods based on game and role-playing theory.

The course, created with funding from the U of A's Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund, will see students negotiate and litigate their own drafts of the British North America Act of 1867 and the Constitution Act of 1982.

Muir, who is cross-appointed to the Department of History and Classics, says the first half of the re-enactment will see students assume the role of different parties representing the regional interests and social forces engaged in key moments of struggle, negotiation and compromise over the creation of the BNA Act.

"The students don't have a completely free hand to write what they want," said Muir. "They have to agree, and they have to be true to the past."

The second half of the course will fast forward to 1982 where the students will have to negotiate patriation of the constitution and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

"I'm expecting that the students will [develop] an intimate knowledge of the actual constitution itself because I don't think they spend enough time reading it," said Muir. "When we teach constitutional law we are very concerned with the application of the constitution, but we also want students to get a sense of why the constitution says what it does and looks the way it does.

"This shift in the way in which the students relate to the material will help them get a different a understanding of the law and the way it works, but not just with constitutional law; there will be a more general sense of how the law works."

Muir and Carver got the idea for the course from U.S. designers, who created similar role-playing games based on the American constitution. The pair plans to attend upcoming constitutional role-play conferences to present their course and find ways of improving it. They have also invited Christopher Moore, a governor-general award winner and an expert author in confederation, to help students get a better sense of the personalities involved.

"The game play itself is designed to get students thinking, in a variety of ways, about different positions, how to understand different positions and how to negotiate with other groups, so there are a lot of different contemporary skills," he said.

Muir says they also have plans to integrate the course with a 2012 conference being organized by the U of A's Constitutional Centre to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution Act. He says this will give students the opportunity to pick the brains of Canadian constitution architects to better understand the process involved in drawing up such a monumental document.

"Teaching is a primary goal of the university, regardless of the importance of research," said Muir. "I think it is important that the university help develop these innovations in teaching so we can be better at that primary goal."

Michael Davies-Venn

Peter Carver (left) and James Muir look over Canada's Charter of Right and Freedoms.

Lab tech grows roots in renewable resources

Michael Brown

staff spotlight

Pak Chow's prowess in the lab has been described as impeccable, and his talent as a laboratory technician within the Department of Renewable Resources has earned him second-author honours on numerous refereed journal articles.

His skills have even led to open invitations to pursue a graduate degree, but the recent University of Alberta Support Staff Recognition Award winner has found contentment helping others see the forest for the trees.

"It is a fun thing to train the grad students because they come from different backgrounds, and they have different lab skills," said Chow. "My job is to help students get used to the lab environment as some of them have never been in the lab before. Eventually, if they want to do analysis or research, they can always find something here, which I'm glad I can help them find."

Since coming to the U of A in 1995, Chow's main duty has been to perform chemical analysis on plant and tree material, looking at such thing as carbohydrates, lipids and nutrient content.

Prior to his life as an environmental scientist, Chow was a civil engineer from Hong Kong. He came to Canada in 1991 to ply his craft, but the recession left him largely without work in his new home.

"After two years of doing odd jobs, I decided to retool myself and go back to school, aiming to do environmental science, which can be combined with my engineering background. I found that the environmental sciences program at NAIT was very practical, and was available in the Biological Sciences diploma, and so I went."

After graduation, Chow joined the U of A working in the Plant Pathology Lab under Peter Blenis, professor emeritus in the Department of Renewable Resources. After working five years with plants and fungi, Chow was transferred within the department to plant physiology, working under Vic Lieffers and Simon Landhausser.

Over the years, Chow has worked with five different research groups in the department and has become a key player in making each of these labs run in a smooth, efficient and friendly manner. He is responsible for training of students in prober lab protocols and meeting regulations in dealing with dangerous products and procedures. Chow's current position is to maintain the laboratories at the Centre of Enhanced Management.

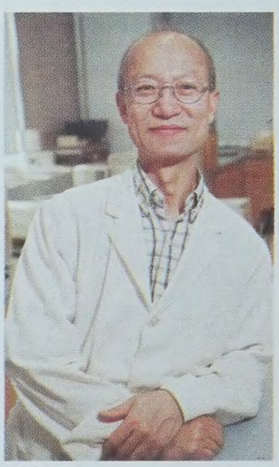
Chow's colleagues speak highly of his precision in the lab but save their greatest praise for his humanity.

"Pak is a very skilled, careful and systematic technician, but the things that make Pak extra special are his personal characteristics that stimulate professional but co-operative behaviour among the students and workers in these labs," wrote one of the people who nominated Pak for the award. "Pak is always friendly, smiling and keeps a positive manner.

"Pak has the unusual ability to demand high standards and safety from all involved but still make the labs an enjoyable place to work."

The nominator added, "In all the years that we have worked with Pak, there has never been an unkind word said about him.

"Pak is an amazing ambassador for the department."



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Parents play a big part in helping kids enjoy sport

Jane Hurly

The way parents behave when their children are involved in sport can make or break the experience for the young athletes, says doctoral student Camilla Knight, who grew up playing competitive tennis in England. She wants to better understand what parents need to be thinking about and doing to be involved in their child's sport in a positive way.

"Parents are crucial to youth sport," says Knight, "so I am looking at developing an international theory around parental involvement in tennis. One reason I'm interested in tennis is that tennis is an individual sport, so the emphasis on parental involvement is often greater than in team sports. Tennis also opened many doors for me and I'd like it to be a positive experience for all players."

While her own experience as a competitive athlete was positive, with parents who were supportive, she witnessed other parents behaving inappropriately, shouting or even hitting their child for losing a match. "Many kids' experiences were positive, but others' bordered on child abuse," says Knight, who won a Dorothy J. Killam Memorial Graduate Prize for outstanding scholarship this year.

Knight says there are a number of reasons some parents misbehave. "Youth sport has become a way for children to show their parents they are successful, and for parents to show others that they're successful parents because they have these children who are good athletes. Some parents may be living through their children, or perhaps the parents weren't successful athletes but want their children to be," explains Knight.

Educating parents about appropriate behaviours around youth sport is key to Knight's parental involvement theory. She says, "It's important for parents and athletes to determine what their goals are for being involved in a sport. If parents are focused on a gold medal and the athlete is OK with that, that's fine. But when the parents and the athlete differ in what they want—for example, the parent is focused on winning, and the child likes sport because of the friends they meet—these differences can lead to issues."

It's a constant education process, through coaches and organizers of youth sport who have opportunities to talk to parents and reinforce supportive behaviours, rather than a one-off parent education session, which Knight feels is helpful but superficial.

"I think that educating and taking the time to help parents understand the consequences of their behaviours is critical. My goal is to take the voice of the athletes to the parents and facilitate the discussion between the parents and athletes," she says, "because parents are more likely to respond to the voices of athletes than the voices of experts."

Campus Rec figures pond hockey is the best game you can name

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta's tradition of hockey greatness is about to take another step forward as Campus Recreation has announced its first annual pond hockey tournament, to be played Feb. 11 to 13.

"We are really looking forward to celebrating that outdoor backyard-rink feeling that many of us grew up with," said Brian Gratrix, program co-ordinator with Campus Rec.

The tournament, which will coincide with CBC's Hockey Day in Canada celebrations, will see 64 teams made up of students, staff and alumni, face off in four-on-four tournament played in rinks currently being constructed on varsity field.

Michael Davies-Venn

Creation of outdoor rinks on varsity field has begun in anticipation of university's first annual pond hockey tournament to be played Feb. 11 to 13.

Entry fee is $100 per team with a roster maximum set at five. There will be a both men's and women's division, which will feature a seeding round followed by a round robin. Currently, organizers say games will consist of two 12-minute periods, with a shovel before each game.

There is a minimum equipment requirement of a helmet, stick and skates, but participants are encouraged to wear shin pads and elbow pads as well.

The rinks are approximately 60 feet by 120 feet with a centre ice line. After each goal, the scoring team will be required to return to its side of half. Nets are six feet wide and six inches high.

There is an off-ice official but no referee. "There is no goaltending, but games are self-officiated so the spirit of the game should dictate over having to call penalties," said Gratrix. "This is certainly one of the highlight participating teams will remember and want to be a part of for years to come," he said.

Registration begins Jan. 17, with an early-bird prize deadline of Jan. 26. Registration will close of Feb. 2.

Med students ship equipment to Africa

Quinn Phillips

On a visit to one of Africa's top public hospitals, third-year medical student Jia Hu was shocked to see it didn't have the bare-minimum supplies like tourniquets or basic lab tests.

"That really opened my eyes," said Hu. "You read about it in the books, you know there's shortages, but you go there to the best public hospital in the country and you see it and you just think, 'oh man, this is unfortunate.'"

He decided when he got home from Zambia, the region where the hospital is located, that it was time to help make a change. He followed the lead of students at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia and last year started the Medical Equipment Recovery Initiative. They collect unused medical equipment and ship it to a hospital and a clinic in Uganda, which was selected by a group in Montreal doing research in the area.

"I've been told that overseas some people even go as far as reusing needless for syringes just because they don't have a lot," said Hu. "Over here we have this stuff in abundance, so I think it's good to be able to send some stuff over."

So far the group has sent more than 400 pounds of equipment including catheters, syringes, tubing and drapes, "the essentials we take for granted," says Hu. The hope is that eventually they'll be able to send supplies overseas on a monthly basis.

"Doing something like this makes you acutely aware of just how bad things are in some places overseas," said Hu.

news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Festival of Teaching invites interactive celebrations

The fourth annual Festival of Teaching will be held March 7–10 and will include a keynote event, panel discussions, wandering scholars and banners. The Festival of Teaching is also adding a new activity this year, whereby all teaching staff, including graduate student instructors, may volunteer or nominate a colleague to showcase and share their expertise, excellence and approaches by opening one of their classes to two or more other instructors to attend as observers. Students are also invited to submit a nomination. Please visit the Festival of Teaching website at www.provost.ualberta.ca/FestivalofTeaching2011.aspx for more information.

Deadline for nominations for University Teaching Awards announced

Before Feb. 25, nominees for one of several awards must be received by General Facilities Council. Nominations may be submitted by current or past students, faculty members, deans or chairs for the University Cup, while submissions for the Distinguished University Professor Award are usually initiated by a nominator, typically a dean. The Rutherford, William Hardy Alexander, Provost's Early Achievement and the Teaching Unit Award can be nominated by any staff or students in any faculty that teaches undergraduate students. Nominations must go through faculties, though, because each faculty has a limit on the number of nominations that can be submitted.

For information on eligibility criteria, UAPPOL policies that pertain to the awards and advice on how to prepare their nominations contact Bobbi Schiestel, Faculty Awards Facilitator, Academic Awards and Ceremonies Office at 492-2644 or via email at bobbi.schiestel@ualberta.ca.

Review committee struck for VP search

Lorne Babiuk's first term as vice-president (research) ends on June 30, 2012. He has advised President Indira Samarasekera that he would like to stand for a second term of office. In consultation with the chair of the board of governors, Brian Heidecker, Samarasekera has asked that an advisory review committee for vice-president (research) be struck in accordance with GFC and board-approved procedures as set out in UAPPOL.

The composition of the above-noted review committee includes three members of the full-time and continuing part-time faculty, none of whom hold administrative positions. Staff who are on administrative or study leave are not eligible to serve on the review committee.

The meeting of the review committee has been scheduled for a full day on Feb. 14 in Room 3-15, University Hall. Committee members must be able to attend this meeting and should note there may be additional meetings. Written nominations for the review committee must be supported by the signatures of five members of the full-time and/or part-time academic staff, not including the nominee, and should be submitted in hard copy to the secretary to General Faculties Council, Garry Bodnar, 3-20 University Hall. Nominations must be received by Friday, Jan. 21 at (noon). If you have any questions about eligibility to serve or to nominate, please call Garry Bodnar at 780-492-4733.

U of A researcher helps pinpoint how to reduce anxiety

Bill Colmers, a professor of pharmacology, and an associate in Chicago discovered that blocking a process in nerve cells reduces anxiety, meaning a new drug could now be developed to better treat anxiety disorders.

For years, researchers have understood what processes in the brain are responsible for high and low anxiety levels, but no one had been able to identify what triggers this process.

"No one else has discovered this," said Colmers. "Others have identified the behaviour, but now we know why this process happens and how it works. Now we know why certain chemical messengers behave the way they do."

Study shows overweight children outside Edmonton heavier than city counterparts

Geoff Ball and Kathryn Ambler, researchers in the Department of Pediatrics and at the Alberta Health Services' Pediatric Centre for Weight and Health, have found that children referred for weight management who live outside the metropolitan Edmonton region are more overweight than Edmonton kids

The researchers looked at 555 physician referrals to the centre between April 2005 and April 2009. About one in five lived outside the Edmonton metro area and almost half (48 per cent) of all the children referred to the clinic had BMIs over the 99th percentile.

On average, kids who lived outside the Edmonton area were 31 pounds heavier and had a BMI four units higher than Edmonton-area kids, suggesting an increased health risk for those outside the metro region. The average age of children in the study was 12.

The researchers noted that obesity-related health care delivered to children and their families outside metropolitan centres may need to be tweaked to ensure they are getting the care they need.

"Families outside of metro areas often have fewer local resources to help them manage health risks that tend to accompany obesity," says Ball, "and a one-size-fits-all approach won't work."

Exhibit designed with Sense and Sustainability

Bev Betkowski

As a guy, Wade Brown isn't really into necklaces made of buttons, but he still found it interesting to hold one in his hand and feel its chunkiness.

Being blind, Brown doesn't often visit museums, but the opportunity to handle the quirky piece of jewelry and other artifacts at a University of Alberta exhibit recently was a rarity for him, given the glassed-in nature of most galleries and other display spaces.

"I really appreciate exhibits like this—where I can find them," he said.

Brown, a U of A alumnus who is applying to law school, took time to visit Sense and Sustainability, a hands-on exhibit running until March 31 in the lobby of the Human Ecology Building.

Featuring repurposed, previously loved objects including toys made of tin scraps, a vase made of paper and a purse crafted from an old inner tube, the exhibit invites all comers to handle each artifact, exploring different bumps, ridges and textures. The treasures were drawn partly from the Department of Human Ecology's clothing and textiles collection, and partly borrowed from private collections.

Sense and Sustainability was designed by two graduate students and an intern studying material culture in the home and community, to celebrate double themes of sustainability and accessibility, said Megan Strickfaden, an assistant professor in the Department of Human Ecology.

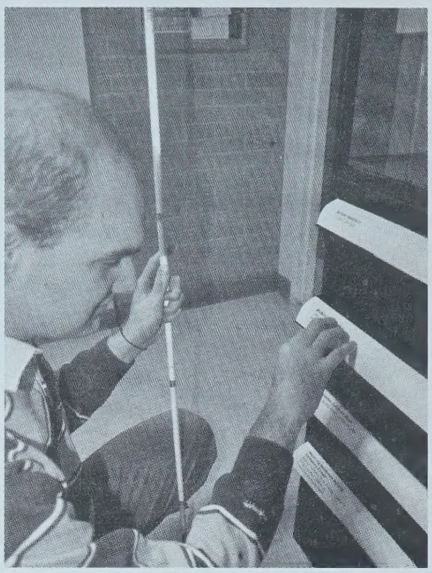
"The idea is to provoke deeper thought towards finding the beauty in things that are impermanent, imperfect and incomplete," Strickfaden said.

"Other cultures such as Africa and Japan routinely reuse materials for other everyday objects. Our consumer society can also discard our addiction to the 'new' and learn to appreciate the character of materials and how they can be integrated into the design of new items."

Because of its touchable nature, it made sense to create an accessible exhibit for people who are blind, have visual impairments or are deaf, "while challenging all audiences to engage with artifacts beyond the visual," Strickfaden added.

Exhibits like Sense and Sustainability give depth to his awareness of the surrounding world, Brown noted. "When you're blind, you don't know what things look like. Stuff that is taken for granted by the rest of society is not part of the blind experience. But after an exhibit like this, now I can picture a person wearing a button necklace."

The exhibit also boasts an audio-visual component, with a video that walks viewers through the artifacts. For visitor Susan Kolbowicz, the subtitles in the video made a big difference in her enjoyment.



Bev Betkowski

Wade Brown at the Sense and Sensability exhibit in the Ecology Building.

Kolbowicz has Usher Syndrome, which has left her hearing impaired and blind, with the exception of tunnel vision in one eye. "To have subtitles is huge, for me. Otherwise, I would have just seen the pictures. I would not have heard the details of the exhibit. It means I'm not half-guessing at what's being presented to me and I can form an opinion about the artifacts."

A theatre-goer and lover of the arts, Kolbowicz wishes there were more subtitled and real-time captioned cultural events happening. "It can be frustrating, because you aren't able to take in the whole experience and appreciate it fully."

She also liked the exhibit's theme of recycling, and "making do with what you have. I try to live by that and it's nice to see some focus on that idea."

Strickfaden plans to put up more exhibits that explore and invite accessibility.

"Opening up exhibits to touch encourages people to engage with all their senses, which takes them back to the original intent of the objects—to be held, touched, turned in the hand, felt close to the face and smelled. That's why questioning exhibit formats—by making them more accessible—is important to all audiences."

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The university remembers a 'good friend' and patron of the arts

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta is mourning the passing of one of its most ardent supporters and a true patron of the fine arts. Sheila Edwards, member of the U of A senate from 1988 to 1994, died Dec. 21 after a long fight with mantle-cell lymphoma. She was 75.

Sheila Edwards

Edwards, the granddaughter of John James Bowlen, Alberta's lieutenant governor from 1950–1959, and wife of Jim Edwards, member of parliament for the Edmonton-South/Edmonton-Southwest riding from 1984–1993 and former chair of the U of A board of governors from 2002–2006, carved out her own place in Alberta's history through her benevolence.

"I will remember Sheila for her quick wit, wisdom and warmth," said U of A President Indira Samarasekera. "Never at a loss for words, Sheila had an uncanny perception of people and politics. Her love for her family was always evident, and she cared deeply about the university and Alberta. She will be missed."

Brian Heidecker, current U of A board chair and long-time Edwards family friend, who also served with Edwards on the university's Senate, says he will remember his friend as "a sparkplug of energy around the senate and around the whole university.

"I always found her to be a delight to work with, full of fun and good ideas. Sheila enjoyed being with people and loved to debate," said Heidecker. "She could argue both sides of an issue quite eloquently, so it was great sport to see who would end up on what side of a debate—always with good intent and a lot of good humour."

> "She had a passion for seeing young people trying new things and growing before her eyes."
>
> Jan Selman

He added, "I just really enjoyed Sheila as a person and, of course, we shared the common passion of supporting the university and all that it means to society."

After spending the first 15 years of her life in Calgary, Edwards and her family moved to Edmonton. She attended the U of A, where she received a bachelor of science degree in chemistry in 1957 before beginning service as Alberta's first environmental chemist.

A champion of the arts in Alberta for her entire life, Edwards—whose mother, Mary Bowlen Mooney, was awarded a honorary doctor of laws degree from the U of A in 1969 and had Studio Theatre's Distinguished Visiting Artist designation named after her—had a hand in nurturing such Edmonton institutions as the Citadel Theatre, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, serving on its board from 1992–1995. In 2005, Edwards was awarded the Alberta Centennial Medal for her lifelong contributions to the community.

Edwards was also a strong supporter of the U of A's Faculty of Arts, particularly Studio Theatre, helping with fundraising for the Timms Centre and endowing a scholarship awarded annually to a second-year student enrolled in the in the bachelor of fine arts program in acting.

"She had a passion for seeing young people trying new things and growing before her eyes," said Jan Selman, past chair of the U of A's Department of Drama, of Edwards' support of Studio Theatre that goes back three decades. "She gave us remarkable support in so many ways, including giving great advice. She was just so helpful in forwarding the drama department's mission. This is a real loss."

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Jan. 14

Golden Bears and Panda's Volleyball vs University of Regina Cougars. Pandas to follow. 6:30 p.m. Main Gym. For a full schedule of U of A athletics go to www.bears.ualberta.ca

Jan. 17 to 20

Involvement Week 2011. Warm up to your community this January and learn about the different volunteer and involvement opportunities available to you on and around campus. This week-long event will feature a kick-off concert, a four day Involvement Fair, a three-part seminar series and an Evening of Involvement with Edmonton City Councillor Don Iveson. For more information go to www.su.ualberta.ca/services_and_businesses/services/student_groups/sgsevents/involve

Jan. 19

Cardiovascular risk in children: How should we measure it? Katerina Maximova, professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences, will be presenting. Noon–1 p.m. 1-040 (Oborowsky Degner Seminar Hall) Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation.

Jan. 20

Shadowy Character, Live Wires, Wooden Maidens: Image and Prototype in Ming dynasty Putian county, Fujian. Jennifer Purtle, University of Toronto, will present. 5–6:30 p.m. 2-20 Fine Arts Building.

Jan. 21 & 22

Campus Sustainability Summit. A campus-wide sustainability brainstorming and networking session is taking place at the University of Alberta's TELUS Centre. This first-ever Campus Sustainability Summit is being spearheaded by the Environmental Coordination Office for Students. There is a $20 deposit for each participant to reserve their spot (cash only). The money will be returned to attendees, in full, at the end of the summit. Drop your $20 deposit off at the ECOS Office (SUB 0-30R or 0-30Q) during office hours.

Jan. 22

Mixed Chorus Bears Den 2011. To be held at the Bears Den in Clare Drake Arena. Come out and enjoy a fun evening with fellow Mixed Chorus alumni as the Pandas hockey teams takes on the Calgary Dinos. The cost for this event is $5 per person and includes pizza and non-alcoholic drinks, a game ticket and parking at Stadium Parkade. For more information go to www.ualberta.ca/alumni/mcaabearsden.

Jan. 23

MACH 4 Bill Street, saxophone, with friends. Arts and Convocation Hall. 3 p.m.

Jan. 24

National Film Board Presentation (in French). "L'affaire Coca-Cola" (85 min.). Un film documentaire sur Coca-Cola et le droit des travailleurs dans les usines d'embouteillage. Un film dédié au courage des militants et à la justice sociale. Entrée libre. Tirage à la porte 7 p.m. Pavillon McMahon.

Jan. 25

Public Health Colloquium Series. Our colloquium series provides an opportunity for participants to learn from faculty, postdoctoral fellows and PhD students who share their current research. Speaker: Roxanne Felix will present "The burden of refugee transportation loans." Noon–12:50 p.m. Room 3-06 University Terrace.

Jan. 26

Contract for Services. How do you decide whether someone is an independent contractor or employee? What is the procedure for determining a worker's status at the U of A? How do you initiate a contract for services? The Contract for Services workshop, in the Research Administration Seminar Series, will answer these questions. Please register via http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=4794. 9:30–10:30 a.m. 2-117 Clinical Sciences.

Department of Economics Micro Seminar. Marcel Boyer, professor at the Université de Montréal, will give a talk entitled, "Alleviating Coordination Problems and Regulatory Constraints through Financial Risk Management."3:30 p.m. 8-14 Tory.

Opening Doors, Creating and Inclusive Excellence in the Academy. Malinda Smith, chair of AASUA Equity Committee, and Catherine Anley from the U of A's Employment Equity Advisory, together with the Centre for Teaching and Learning, are hosting a symposium to raise awareness about equity, diversity and mentoring in the academy. 9 a.m.–1 p.m. 271/219 TELUS Centre TELUS Centre.

Jan. 27

Education Research Forum. Decolonizing "Education for All" Policy: Are there possibilities for global social justice. 3:30–4:30 p.m. 107 Education South.

Until Feb. 11

Lines of Flight. Sponsored by the Student Design Association and Visual Arts Students Association. Welcome to territory not yet explored. Join U of A Art and Design students as they creatively investigate liberating escapes from standard visual art forms. These fascinating pieces will lead the viewer in any direction and can also leave behind marks for others to follow. South Foyer Rutherford Library, North and South (Humanities and Social Sciences)

laurels

Deputy Provost **Dru Marshall** has been named new chair of the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sport and Physical Activity Board of Directors. A member of the board since 2005, Marshall officially assumed her new duties at CAAWS's Annual General Meeting late November in Ottawa. CAAWS is a national non-profit organization dedicated to creating an equitable sport and physical activity system in which girls and women are actively engaged as participants and leaders.

Timothy Caulfield, research director of the Health Law Institute, received the Till and McCulloch Award from the Stem Cell Network. The award recognizes researchers for their national and international leadership in the field of stem-cell ethics.

"Alberta Construction" magazine has named the **Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Sciences** one of the top Alberta institutional construction projects completed in 2010.

Locating an end point

Supplied

This piece, titled "End Point" by University of Alberta printmaking professor Sean Caulfield and sculpture professor Royden Mills, is part of an exhibition, Perceptions of Promise: Biotechnology, Society and Art, which provides visual artists and biomedical scholars and scientists from Europe, the United States and Canada a chance to contribute to discussions on stem-cell research. The exhibit runs until March 20 at Glenbow Museum in Calgary.

Photos: Michael Haley | Marketing and Communications Marketing Services

Warming up with a little

Antifreeze

The University of Alberta's Students' Union isn't letting the winter blahs take over as classes kick off again. AntiFreeze, an annual favourite, pits teams of 10 against each other in a host of odd competitions, from toboggan races to the Bear Sling 500, which requires competitors to slingshot a stuffed bear or panda across Quad.

folio
University of Alberta

Page 2 & 3
NSERC and CFI
Funding agencies come through for U of A research

Page 7
Staff Spotlight
Staffer stumbles upon fountain of youth

Page 8 & 9
On the Move
I-Week is back and unpacked

Volume 48 Issue 10 | January 28, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

'99–'00 Pandas called to the Alberta Hockey Hall of Fame

Sandra Pysklywyc

Hockey Alberta and the Hockey Alberta Foundation announced Jan. 25 the 2011 Alberta Hockey Hall of Fame inductees.

Making the list was the 1999–2000 University of Alberta Pandas hockey team. Under the leadership of Coach Howie Draper for the past 14 seasons, the Pandas have compiled a remarkable record in Canadian women's varsity hockey.

During the illustrious '99–'00 season, the Pandas became the first team from western Canada to win the Canadian Interuniversity Sport championships.

Draper recalls that season as a very exciting year. "Prior to that, Canada West play consisted of one or two tournaments to decide the eventual conference champion. The '99–2000 season was the first full regular-season schedule, so it was a major step in the development of the conference and played a huge part in the growth of female hockey at our level," says Draper.

The talent-rich squad was powered by five league top scorers and five conference all-star selections. Named to the first team were goaltender Stacey McCullough and forwards Krysty Lorenz and Danielle Bourgeois. Second team nods went to defenceman Erin van de Wetering and forward Shelley Reynolds. Draper was also named Conference Coach of the Year and Bourgeois, the Canada West Rookie of the Year.

The Pandas finished with an 11-1 record atop the Canada West standings and, after defeating Manitoba and Calgary, set their sights on nationals.

With an opening game victory over Guelph, the Pandas faced off against the home team and two-time defending champions, the Concordia Stingers, in the semi-final match-up. For many on the team, this was considered the "unofficial championship" and the game was a fight to the finish.

Battling to a 2-2 tie, and through an overtime period, Pandas captain Sue Huculak scored the winning goal in a shootout, and the team advanced to the final game versus the McGill Martlets.

Continued on page 2

Mount F & O

Michael Brown

More than 5,000 truckloads of snow were pulled from the University of Alberta's Edmonton campuses to help build a mountain of snow at the South Campus.

New centres will help grow agricultural research

Bev Betkowski

Two new agricultural research centres launched Jan. 25 at the University of Alberta will create new opportunities for Alberta's crop and livestock producers.

Led by two top researchers in the U of A's Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences , the new centres in oilseed and livestock research are being supported by $4.5 million over two years from Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions.

Phytola, headed by Randall Weselake, a professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science and Canada Research Chair in Agricultural Lipid Biotechnology, focuses on developing strategies that will improve the quantity and quality of oil in crops such as canola and flax.

Livestock Gentec, which is also supported by a $1.5 million investment from the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency, will be led by Stephen Moore, also a professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science and a world leader in livestock genomics research. The centre will research ways to produce healthier, more efficient cattle that produce better beef and dairy products.

The centres bring together leading international experts in agricultural biotechnology, provide connections to well-respected national and international networks and symbolize both the university's vibrant partnership with government and its commitment to the agricultural industry, said Carl Amrhein, U of A provost and vice-president (academic).

"The research being conducted at both centres is leading edge and will make significant contributions to the issues of food security, food quality and value-added opportunities for crop and livestock producers," he said. "They are wonderful examples of how the provincial government, through the Alberta Innovates system, and academia and industry, are able to collaborate and discover new knowledge that benefits all of society."

In viewing some of the lab work being done by Weselake, Moore and their teams, Jack Hayden, Alberta's minister of agriculture and rural development, was struck by the significance of the research.

"The work these people do at the U of A is unbelievable. This is one of the top research institutions in the world, and today's announcement will take it one more step," Hayden said.

The government's investment in research allows the U of A to foster a "legacy" of talented people, Moore said, referring to students in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, who work around the world in the industry. "One of the big [legacies] we are leaving are these students."

The work being funded through the creation of the new centres plays a vital role in growing the emerging bio-economy and the experts who will power that field, Weselake added.

"These personnel will be integral to the success of the province and Canada. Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions and the Alberta government deserve special thanks for making these centres a reality. Alberta is richer than ever because of these investments."

Ken Matheweson

(L-R) Professor Randy Weselake and Provost Carl Amrhein are joined by MLA Paul Hinman; Jack Hayden, Alberta Minister of Agriculture; and Doug Horner, deputy premier and minister of advanced education, for a tour of a U of A research facility that looks at ways to improve the quality of oil in crops.

folio

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

The University of Alberta maintains a database of all alumni. This database is used to send you news about the U of A, including folio and *New Trail*, invitations to special events and requests for support. On Sept. 1, 1999, post-secondary institutions were required to comply with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation of the province of Alberta. In accordance with this legislation, please respond to one of the following options:

- ❑ Please keep my name, or
- ❑ Remove my name from the folio list.

Name _____
Signature _____

No response means the University of Alberta assumes an individual wishes to remain on the mailing list.

NSERC supports research to bolster economy and quality of life

Michael Brown

On Jan. 20 the federal government announced an annual investment of $1.6 million over the next three years for 11 University of Alberta early-stage science and engineering projects, in an ongoing commitment to support new research in areas that have been identified as priorities for Canadians.

"Getting new research projects off the ground can be difficult, in large part because new, and as yet untried, ideas can seem too risky for funding investment," said U of A President Indira Samarasekera. "That's what makes NSERC's Strategic Project Grants program so vital to the ongoing generation and pursuit of truly new ideas at universities like the U of A.

"My congratulations to the 11 researchers and their teams who were successful in achieving this funding at such a critical early stage."

The 11 projects—eight of which originate in the Faculty of Engineering, two in the Faculty of Science and one in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences—were awarded grants through the Government of Canada's Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada's Strategic Project Grants Program. The goal of the program is to increase research and training in targeted areas—environmental science and technologies, information and communications technologies, manufacturing, and natural resources and energy—that could strongly enhance Canada's economy, society and environment within the next 10 years.

"These grants form an important part of the wide-ranging NSERC funding received by our researchers at so many stages in their careers—from student support to discovery grants to industry collaborations," said Lorne Babiuk, U of A vice-president (research). "The university looks forward to continuing to partner with NSERC to advance our common goals for research, training, and technology transfer and commercialization, for the benefit of all Canadians."

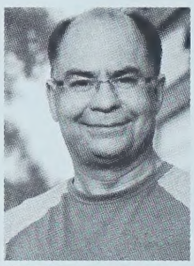
In total, the government will invest $55 million through NSERC's Strategic Project Grants Program in support of more than 120 research teams.

NSERC is a federal agency that helps make Canada a country of discoverers and innovators. The agency supports some 30,000 post-secondary students and post-doctoral fellows in their advanced studies. It promotes discovery by funding more than 12,000 professors every year and fosters innovation by encouraging more than 1,500 Canadian companies to participate and invest in post-secondary research projects.

Business alum donates $5M

Folio Staff

In appreciation of the interdisciplinary business education he received from the Alberta School of Business at the University of Alberta, which helped fuel a successful 25-year career in the global energy sector, Edmonton native Alfred Sorensen has donated $5 million to his alma mater.


Alfred Sorensen

The Alfred Sorensen Chair in Energy, Environmental and Reputational Risk Management will allow the school to recruit a global leader in the field. Further, the Alfred Sorensen Global Experience Fund will encourage and enhance student international exchanges, study tours abroad and global internship positions.

"I am a strong believer in the value to our society of public education and how it can be used to improve the world we live in and, to that end, it must be supported by those who have greatly benefited from its existence," said Sorensen.

After graduating with a bachelor of commerce degree in 1983 and completing his certified accounting designation, Sorensen entered the nascent energy trading industry, where he would co-found Continental Energy, growing it to one of the largest physical gas trading entities in Canada. He went on to join Duke Energy and established Duke Energy Europe, where he spent 13 years. Most recently, in December 2010, Sorenson closed the sale of his company Galveston LNG—a company dedicated to the building of Canada's first liquefied natural gas terminal in Kitimat B.C., which will allow the export of natural gas from Canada to Asia—to Houston Apache Corp. and EOG Resources Canada.

Philanthropist, executive and entrepreneur, Sorenson was also a two-week executive-in-residence at the Alberta School of Business in November and is the newest member of the school's high-profile 30-member Business Advisory Council.

"The Alberta School of Business greatly appreciates Alfred's support of time and resources, which significantly inspires students and contributes to the school's growing reputation as a global leader in energy," said Dean Mike Percy.

U of A NSERC award winners

(brackets represent 2011 funding)

- **Roger Zemp** ($118,500) Capacitive Micromachined Ultrasound Transducers with improved electrical safety and minimal charge effects
- **Yindi Jing** ($147,400) Future ubiquitous green mesh relay network design based on distributed beamforming
- **Daniel Sameoto** ($66,500) Sensitive synthetic dry adhesives for pick and place application in Micro-electro-mechanical Systems
- **Robert Hayes** ($119,365) Advanced natural gas engine catalytic converter for methane and greenhouse gas reduction
- **Jingli Luo** ($90,500) Fuel cell for co-production of electricity and colbalt from syngas
- **James Cahill** ($96,373) Pine regeneration following mountain pine beetle attack
- **Christopher Backhouse** ($232,000) Automated, miniaturized pathogen detection systems
- **Michael Gänzle** ($150,000) Functional glycans from lactic acid bacteria
- **Christine Szymanski** ($189,696) Novel crops expressing bacteriophage tailspike proteins for reduction of food-borne pathogens at source
- **Alan Lynch** ($200,180) Inspection system for electrical transmission lines using an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
- **Witold Pedrycz** ($183,000) Unified decision-support surveillance and risk assessment architecture for livestock production systems, public and animal health and rural communities.

87 Ave. lane closure

Folio Staff

Be advised that, beginning Monday, Jan. 24, two lanes of 87 Ave. will be closed between 112 and 114 St. for the next eight to 12 weeks. Traffic will be realigned to allow for one lane travelling in each direction during this phased closure.

The lane closures are taking place so crews can install the glazing and roofing components for the pedway between the Heritage Medical Research Centre and Education South, which will open in late spring or early summer 2011. Deliveries into the Medical Sciences Building and the Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation will not be impacted.

The same lane closure process will be followed for the pedway crossing connecting the Edmonton Clinic Health Academy and the Medical Sciences Building (114 St.). Details about the lane closures will be made available in the next month.

Facilities and Operations is working to complete these projects as quickly as possible to minimize the impact felt by students, staff and faculty.

Bound for the Alberta Hall of Fame

continued from page 1

Defeating the Martlets 2-0, the Pandas captured the title and McCullough and Bourgeois were named to the CIAU all-Canadian team.

For Draper and his team, capturing the gold medal was a glorious moment. "The group of players that won that gold medal was pretty good in terms of individual skill, but what made their achievement possible was the amazing collective determination that they displayed as a team, side by side. That win paved the way for much of the success that our program has enjoyed through the last 10 years or so," says Draper.

Since that season, the Pandas have captured an impressive seven CIS/CIAU Championships—in 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007 and 2010—built around an unprecedented 110-game winning streak that began in 2003.

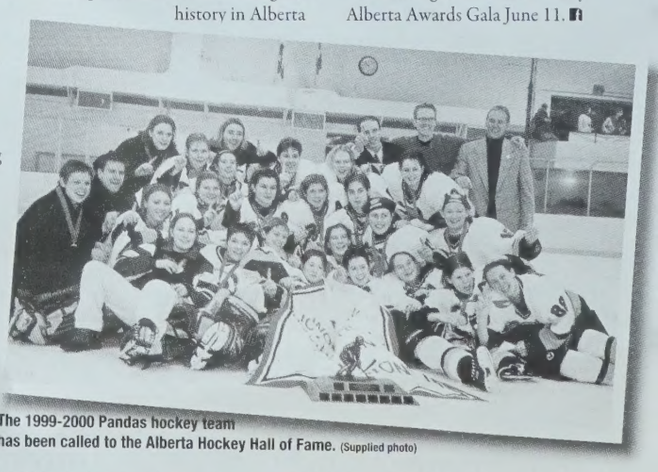
The Alberta Hockey Hall of Fame induction is an honour, Draper says. "This is a very proud moment for all of us, and for the Pandas Hockey Program, to be inducted into the building that houses so many great Alberta sports players, teams and builders. We truly appreciate the work done by those that developed and moved our team's nomination forward."

Located within the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame and Museum in Red Deer, the Alberta Hockey Hall of Fame gallery is designed to preserve and celebrate Alberta's hockey history.

"We look forward each year to honouring those who have made hockey in Alberta, Canada and around the world what it is today," said Scott Robinson, executive director, Hockey Alberta Foundation. "The Alberta Hockey Hall of Fame is an important showcase of our game's history in Alberta and all of these inductees have made significant contributions."

Inductees are chosen from nominations based on select criteria: nominees must have lived in Alberta for at least five years, must have personal or professional accomplishments in the game of hockey, must have made an impact in the game beyond a local or regional level and must have received significant other recognitions. Nominations can be made for either an individual or team active or retired.

The 1999–2000 U of A Pandas will be recognized at the Hockey Alberta Awards Gala June 11.


The 1999-2000 Pandas hockey team has been called to the Alberta Hockey Hall of Fame. (Supplied photo)

Research infrastructure gets boost from CFI

Folio Staff

The Canada Foundation for Innovation's latest funding announcement on Jan. 21 contained good news for the University of Alberta.

Thirty-four U of A researchers will share more than $7.1 million for 24 projects supported by the foundation's Leaders Opportunity Fund, which is designed to support key research at Canadian universities by giving these institutions the resources needed to attract and retain top researchers in a competitive international research market. CFI announced a total of $61,291,274 in new funds to support 246 projects at 48 institutions across Canada.

The announcement, made at a handful of select institutions across Canada, including the U of A, was welcomed by university administration as well as researchers and grad students who will benefit from the project monies. The local announcement was presented by Rona Ambrose, MP for Edmonton – Spruce Grove, who spoke of the necessity of investing in science and technology to fuel Canada's future economic growth. Ambrose noted that the U of A's funding was the second highest of any institution in Canada.

Carl Amrhein, provost and vice-president (academic), welcomed the news as an opportunity for the university to continue its contribution to Canada's knowledge economy. He said that the search for new knowledge is "built on human talent" and that CFI's investment in university infrastructure is one way of securing that talent.

"Funding like CFI's Leaders Opportunity Fund allows us to put into place the infrastructure that enables talented individuals to reach ever-higher levels of achievement," said Amrhein. "That first-rate infrastructure means we remain internationally competitive in attracting and retaining the very best faculty, post-doctoral fellows, research associates and graduate students to our institution," said Amrhein. "It will also provide the university and the researchers with the opportunity to attract some of the top academic minds at the graduate and post-doctoral level."

Ania Ulrich, professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, was one of the recipients and offered her sincere thanks to CFI for continued funding of her research into groundwater contamination and the use of bacteria to remove pollutants from freshwater sources. Her funding will be used to purchase a flow cytometry system for use in her research on the dynamics of bacterial communities.

"This infrastructure will assist in research that will result in improved air, soil and water quality through the application of microbial communities," she said. "The increased economic activities associated with the research, development and commercialization of novel technologies will create and support innovative collaborations and partnerships while attracting and training graduate students."

Supplied

Ania Ulrich, an assistant professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and MP Rona Ambrose.

U of A projects funded by CFI

(brackets denote total funding)

- **Robert Alexander** ($290,786) Ion homeostasis – from bench to bedside.
- **Klaus Ballanyi** ($796,370) Electrophysiological imaging and photostimulation of neuron-glia networks in ex vivo neurological disease models.
- **Peter Baskerville** ($393,802) The last best west: The Alberta land settlement infrastructure project.
- **John Davis** ($376,789) Laboratory for low-temperature quantum nanoscience: quantum resonators and quantum nanofluidics.
- **Anastasia Elias** ($76,903) An analysis suite for characterizing smart polymer/nanoparticle composites.
- **John Gamon** ($100,000) A scaleable optical sensor network for ecosystem health.
- **Adrian Gerlich** ($140,000) Infrastructure for synthesis of materials for structural and alternative energy applications.
- **Simon Gosgnach** ($371,721) Analysis of the role of genetically defined interneurons in the operation of the locomotor and respiratory CPGs.
- **Lisa Hornberger** ($239,199) State-of-the-art ultrasound biomicroscope for the evaluation of myocardial & vascular function in maternal, fetal and placental disease in small animals.
- **Ashwin Iyer** ($240,000) Facility for the experimental characterization of metamaterial imaging devices, radiating structures and scattering surfaces.
- **John Klassen** ($439,887) Mass spectrometry for the analysis of high molecular weight protein complexes.
- **Lars Klotz** ($181,119) Oxidative stress and stress signaling facility.
- **Afsaneh Lavasanifar** ($377,613) Facility to support the bench-to-bedside development of targeted drugs and drug delivery systems for improved therapeutic performance.
- **Derek MacKenzie** ($242,601) Pyrogenic ecosystems and restoration ecology laboratory.
- **Norman Neumann** ($286,640) Laboratory for assessing biological hazards in the environment.
- **Michael Serpe** ($128,000) Facility for the fundamental characterization and application of advanced materials.
- **Valerie Sim** ($400,000) Infrastructure for studying both the biophysics of infectious prion oligomers and the prion disease pathology they induce.
- **Arno Siraki** ($358,939) Mechanisms of drug free radical metabolite toxicity.
- **Keith Tierney** ($80,000) An aquatic center for the evaluation of the effects of water quality on fish health.
- **Marcello Tonelli** ($623,645) The Alberta dialysis databank.
- **Reinhard Vehring** ($200,000) Microparticle engineering facility.
- **Ania Ulrich** ($125,000) Multiparametric flow cytometry system for the development and characterization of environmental biotechnology remediation strategies.
- **Frank Wuest** ($789,853) Small animal PET/CT: An innovative preclinical multimodality molecular imaging platform for translational research.
- **Ming Zhang** ($43,097) Cochlear low-frequency electrical responses.

U of A ranked among the world's 'greenest'

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta has been ranked as the third greenest university in Canada and 22nd in the world by GreenMetric Ranking of World Universities.

Managed by Universitas Indonesia, the UI Green Metric Ranking of World Universities 2010 rated participating institutions based on factors such as the percentage of green space on their campuses, electricity consumption, waste and water management, and the application of eco-sustainability policies and efforts.

"I am pleased with the university's ranking," said Trina Innes, director of the U of A's Office of Sustainability. "It gives us a chance to pause, recognize and celebrate all that the institution has done up until now. It also inspires us to keep enhancing our performance as we move forward."

The list was created in April 2010 to help to promote awareness in institutions of higher education of the value of putting in place policies and systems that will have a positive impact on global warming and climate change, particularly those policies that help reduce carbon emissions through efficient energy use, greening the campus and waste recycling.

University of California, Berkeley topped the 95-university ranking. York University and Simon Fraser were the top Canadian schools in the ranking.

The Office of Sustainability is supporting the Deliberation on Campus Sustainability project (www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/sustainability/docs.cfm) which is bringing students, staff and faculty together to identify ways to build the university's sustainability legacy.

ADVISORY REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION):

Input from the Community

Ms. Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance and Administration), has advised President Indira Samarasekera that she would like to stand for a third term of office. In consultation with the Chair of the Board of Governors, Mr. Brian Heidecker, President Samarasekera has asked that an Advisory Review Committee for Vice-President (Finance and Administration) be struck.

UAPPOL policy provides that members of the university community have an opportunity to contribute to the review process. Individuals are welcome to express their views on the priorities of Vice-President (Finance and Administration), including current issues, leadership, and the future direction of the Office of the Vice-President (Finance and Administration). An anonymized summary of the feedback will be provided to Ms. Clark during the review process. President Samarasekera invites you to submit your comments and/or suggestions, in confidence, by **4:30 pm on February 25, 2011,** to:

President Indira Samarasekera
c/o Jackie Wright, Secretary to the Advisory Review Committee
3-1 University Hall
University of Alberta, T6G 2J9
phone: (780) 492-9592
email: jackie.wright@ualberta.ca
fax: (780) 492-9265

Responsibility for the administration of the review process is housed in the Office of the President. Please note that the membership of the Advisory Review Committee will be confirmed by February 8, 2011, and posted on the President's website at www.president.ualberta.ca.

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Susanne Barton, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Jan. 14 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Barton correctly identified the photo in question as being the north doors of Pembina Hall. For her efforts, Barton has now-vintage, white "I wanted to buy one, but thought I would win one in folio" U of A Centenary t-shirt.

Up for grabs in a true U of A Centenary artifact: a coveted Butterdome butterdish. To win, simply email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Feb. 4, and you will be entered into the draw.

Michael Brown

Residents of St. Joseph's college hung their Campus Rec hockey jerseys out their windows Jan. 21 in remembrance of Dean Mortensen, a U of A student who went missing while walking home from Lister in 1992.

External relations a function of the U of A's forward-thinking founder

The University of Alberta can be a complicated entity with many moving parts. University 101 exists to assist the campus community in better understanding who does what and how things get done at the U of A.

Michael Brown

University 101

When people think of external relations at a university, they tend to think of it as a modern priority for research-intensive public universities like the University of Alberta.

The fact is, however, the many responsibilities of today's external relations portfolio were stamped on the very essence of learning and discovery at U of A when the institution was created in 1908.

Founder and first president Henry Marshall Tory outlined the necessity of external relations during his address at the university's first convocation. "Institutions must be conducted in such a way as to relate them as closely as possible to the life of the people," he said. "The people demand that knowledge shall not be the concern of scholars alone. The uplifting of the whole people shall be its final goal. This should be the concern of all educated men; this should never be forgotten."

Debra Pozega Osburn

Relating learning and discovery back to the public in order to uplift the whole people has been the responsibility of every member of the university community since its inception. Debra Pozega Osburn, vice-president (external relations), says when one thinks of external relations, one needs to think about Tory's words in a modern university setting.

"The university has core missions related to teaching and education, related to research and discovery, and related to outreach and community contact. These have been a driving force at the university now for 102 years and are at the core of what we do," said Osburn. "People tend to think of external relations as a fairly new priority for research-intensive public universities like the University of Alberta, but when you think about certain aspects of the university's core missions, external relations functions have simply grown as the institution has grown."

Osburn says the role of the Office of External Relations is critical to the university's ability to connect with its stakeholders—government, alumni, business and industry, other post-secondary institutions, and the community at large—in a way that helps advance the institution.

"When you think of external relations and what its responsibilities are, you think in terms of advancing relationships, advancing reputation and gaining strong public support," said Osburn. "It is relationship building; it's strategic communications and it is the kind of value-added service that serves the needs of the faculty, staff and administrators."

This value-added service includes providing strategic council to the president, deans and various administrators involved in undertaking the day-to-day work related to government, as well as building stakeholder relationships and institutional reputation while providing corporate relations, marketing and communications. More and more, building university pride is becoming part of the core work that external relations is undertaking, says Osburn, but its mission is clear: to advance the university's resources and reputation.

To help spread the good word, the external relations portfolio includes 100 staff members making up four key units: marketing and communications, alumni affairs, government and corporate relations and the Calgary Centre. They work together to advance public understanding of, and advocate for, the U of A as it continues to gain importance among post-secondary institutions regionally, nationally and, more and more, internationally.

"I firmly believe that the reputation of the University of Alberta is rooted in the excellent work and achievements of our faculty and staff, our students and alumni," said Osburn. "Reputation isn't something that external relations creates; reputation is built by those who teach, discover, and learn here. We then work day-in and day-out to advance that reputation and to connect the work and achievement of the university with the public good—just as Tory challenged us to do."

She adds that, without the presence of the external relations portfolio, it is likely that fewer in the community would understand the impact of the institution on their day-to-day lives.

"The more we could do to enhance understanding the impact of the U of A, the more that impact circles back into support and recognition for the faculty and staff, students and alumni."

U of A to operate under an Access Copyright interim tariff while procedures developed

Folio Staff

As a result of the Copyright Board of Canada's decision to approve Access Copyright's application for an "interim tariff," the University of Alberta has determined it will operate for the present under that interim tariff. The university's decision means it has additional time to continue its consideration of the highly complex copyright landscape and to put in place the proper policy and associated procedures that ensure the U of A's readiness to operate under any copyright regimen.

On Dec. 23, the Copyright Board of Canada approved an Access Copyright application for an interim tariff effective from Jan. 1 until Dec. 31, 2013, or the date that the original Access Copyright tariff application is certified, whichever is earlier.

As the university moves to formalize its procedures on copyright, the campus community should proceed with those new or reaffirmed practices that were introduced or restated at the end of last year. This includes activities such as reproducing copyright material (for both traditional and online classroom settings) and reproducing copyright material to be included in lecture notes, PowerPoint slides, classroom handouts and course packs. The university libraries will continue to implement the changes regarding the placing of course materials on reserve. The interim tariff simply offers breathing space for the university to embrace practices tailored to the needs of faculty and students, and to communicate those practices appropriately and effectively.

The complexities of copyright as it affects the university community are considerable, and those with questions as to the university's practice in the interim period are encouraged to contact the Copyright and Licensing Office on campus for assistance.

Concerns about copyright were precipitated by an application, in March of last year, by Access Copyright, to the Copyright Board of Canada. Access Copyright applied for a change in fees for post-secondary educational institutions, which was to have become effective Jan. 1. Many institutions, including the University of Alberta, believed the changes would create unacceptable cost burdens, as well as creating unacceptably intrusive monitoring provisions.

Through the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, the broader post-secondary community, along with numerous other organizations, continues to oppose Access Copyright's application, and there has been considerable national discussion as to the impact, and the unreasonableness of Access Copyright's proposals. At the institutional level most universities, including the U of A, have been reviewing their policies and procedures with the intent, if necessary, to operate independently of the proposed Access Copyright tariff. The ability to reach this stage, given the original timeframes involved, did, however, raise challenges for the university.

In the interim, the U of A will continue to support the AUCC challenge in opposing the original Access Copyright application and continue to engage the university community in discussion as to the best procedural framework to be adopted. As well, the university is formulating a comprehensive awareness program to inform the community about this issue as it develops in the months to come.

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DKE fraternity sanctioned at the U of A

Folio Staff

The University of Alberta's Office of the Dean of Students has officially sanctioned the U of A's chapter of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity for hazing conduct.

The Dekes, says Frank Robinson, dean of students, were subject to a thorough university investigation, which led to formal charges concerning violations of individual safety and dignity under the university's Code of Student Behaviour.

The outcome of the investigation is that, on Jan. 27, the Office of the Dean of Students has "suspended the DKE fraternity as a Student Group for a period of five years. During the period of suspension they will be ineligible to register as a student group at the university." Charges under the code were not levied against individual students because the intent of the process is to ultimately protect students and the university community.

"The university has taken this action as a result of its concern over the safety and well-being of students and the university community, and this is achieved by suspending the group," he said.

During the course of the investigation, the Deke fraternity acknowledged that hazing has taken place over different years and that this behaviour was participated in by both student and alumni members of its U of A chapter.

The suspension means that the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity is no longer allowed to officially identify themselves as associated with the university in any way. The group has lost the privilege of using the university's name and insignia; it will be unable to access, rent or book university space and equipment or use the university's institutional liquor and gaming licenses, and it will no longer be able to participate in university governance or activities.

"It is important to recognize that University of Alberta student groups are an integral part of the university community," says Robinson. "They add vibrancy to the student experience and bring many benefits to the university and the broader community generally. Fraternities and sororities—there are 17 on the U of A campus—are included in that list of 450 engaging and beneficial student clubs.

"The actions taken in this case concerning the Dekes have been motivated by the need to ensure that student groups are and remain a positive force in student life."

Robinson said his office will continue to work on defining the relationship between fraternities and sororities and the university community to ensure that positive benefits exist for all.

"During the period of suspension the DKE's have agreed to meet with and report to the university and have indicated their compliance with the suspension," said Robinson. "After a period of three years the fraternity will have the opportunity to apply to have the suspension lifted at the dean of student's discretion, provided they can demonstrate good behaviour during the period of suspension and have developed a comprehensive plan for future activities."

New Lee Playwright in Residence arrives

Michael Davies-Venn

Greg MacArthur, the University of Alberta's new Lee Playwright-in-Residence, has worked extensively across Canada and around the world, but has never been to Edmonton. Now that he's here, he says he has been exploring. He is convinced that, "like any other place, there's the surface of the city and underneath there are little gems that you can find. I look forward to discovering the gems of Edmonton."

Greg MacArthur

And during his time searching, he hopes to find "a really healthy, nice, independent community, where the underground folks—the progressives—'the others'—hang out." These "others," he says, will provide him community and influence, much of which informs his work. "I'm looking for a sense of community with people to create my work. My aesthetic in arts is not mainstream. I'm interested in alternative methods of creation," he says.

MacArthur does not necessarily create work for a community of "others," but he says that the theatre that affects him most is one that "reflects my state of being and condition of living in the world, something that I could recognize. Maybe this goes back to the sense of community again, something that I can see and realize that I am not alone in my thinking."

But whereas he believes that art can be a mirror through which society is viewed, he says it ought to be much more than that. "Art is not meant to be created for ourselves, it's meant to affect people," MacArthur said. "I think theatre should not answer questions, but should pose them. The role of theatre is for an audience to come out of a play slightly changed from when they came into the theatre, whether that change is for 10 minutes or a lifetime."

And that practice of questioning will find its way in the largest play MacArthur has ever penned, and it will be for U of A's Studio Theatre. The play, tentatively titled *Missionary Position*, is influenced by events from the devastating earthquakes in Haiti.

"That's a piece written for 12 people and I've never written a piece of that scale before," he said. "There's something I find interesting about the western world's relationship to the disasters happening around the world right now," he said.

MacArthur, who is the third Lee Playwright in Residence, follows Kevin Kerr (2007–2010) and Don Hannah (2005–2007). MacArthur wrote *Tyland*, which was featured at the Alberta Theatre Project's Enbridge playRites Festival and Recovery, commissioned and produced by the National Arts Centre and produced by Rumble Theatre.

Is current Chinese investment the leading edge of the wave?

Michael Ulrich

Over the past four decades, diplomatic relations between Canada and China have slowly evolved from their early beginnings in the 1970s, when Canada's gross domestic product was almost identical to that of China's, to today, when China's increased investment interest in Canada—particularly in Alberta—is generating national debate over the value of this investment relative to long-term Canadian economic interests.

This topic was the focal point of the most recent lecture series event held at the University of Alberta's Calgary Centre Jan. 13.

Gordon Houlden, director of the U of A's China Institute, presented his views to a capacity crowd. Houlden, with more than 30 years of experience with the Canadian Foreign Service, argued that he believes it is clearly in the best interest of Canada to further develop and strengthen its trading partnerships and relationship with China to ensure Canada's long-term prosperity and economic integration globally.

"I support the ongoing debate over Chinese foreign investment in Canada, but the debate needs to be based on facts and not our past fears," said Houlden. "I think it's important to understand the power of having both the U.S. and China as core trading partners in the future."

Houlden, who joined the U of A's China Institute in 2008, spent most of his years with the Canadian Foreign Service focused on Chinese affairs and, he says, even he is surprised at the level of interest regarding the growth of Chinese foreign investment in Canada.

"Alberta is currently well ahead of the rest of the country when it comes to experience in dealing with Chinese investment," said Houlden, "but we must be careful not to have too narrow a view that might limit other investment opportunities."

Houlden foresees natural resources remaining the primary focus for Chinese foreign investment for a generation, but believes that focus will expand and diversify over time as the Chinese economy continues to grow.

"Canada ranks very highly in the eyes of the Chinese," said Houlden. "I don't want to see Canadian flagship companies auctioned off, but I think that over time an informed debate will have to be held to determine how much foreign investment should be allowed. Canadians will have to accept that investment from China can serve our national interests."

Last October, the China Institute hosted a national conference in Ottawa examining the past 40 years of diplomatic and business relations between Canada and China. The conference was just one example of the many ways the institute is working to advance knowledge of the Canada-China relationship and to leverage the extensive Chinese expertise of the U of A.

Ecology student puts out the welcome mat

Bev Betkowski

Stucco or vinyl siding? Not what most students would be thinking about during the last precious days of summer vacation, but the burning question was top of mind for Kari Bazian.

The fledgling designer, who has just completed her final semester for a degree in human ecology at the University of Alberta, minoring in design, has poured her time and talent into creating a welcoming look for a social housing project in central Edmonton.

Her unpaid work, which began last August, went toward credits to earn her degree, but was rewarding in other ways, too.

"The people living in these places will have come from other housing units or apartments that have that white-wall look. This will be less institutionalized and it will feel a bit more like home for them, hopefully."

Bazian, 23, has spent the last six months researching exterior and interior finishes for the project –a triplex in the Prince Charles community of Edmonton which will house Aboriginal families. She joined the project under the guidance of John Whittaker, a retired engineer and professor emeritus of the U of A.

Her first attempt at a real-life project brought its own challenges—especially working on a shoestring budget.

"There's not really a market for designers to do social housing—no one wants to pay for it, when you are budgeting off of government grants. It's easy to make a house look nice when you have an unlimited budget. But to make it look nice with no budget is more of a challenge."

Bazian not only had to weigh the merits of acrylic versus stucco siding, but also had to find decorating options that were pleasant, but budget-friendly. That meant no luxurious granite counter tops, no hardwood flooring.

Instead, she spent hours researching comfortable but cost-conscious alternatives, and also met with staff from Native Counselling Services of Alberta to discuss what design preferences, if any, there might be, for Aboriginal families.

Bazian incorporated earthy tones into her colour scheme to reflect an Aboriginal cultural connection to nature, and made sure to take into account the needs of young families for durable walls and doors, easy maintenance, allergy-free materials, even barrier-free access for visiting grandparents. She also added individuality to each unit by making the front doors dark blue or mustard yellow.

Bev Betkowski

Kari Bazian

"John had an architect to design buildings with character, and I was excited by that. And he wanted a designer—not just the builder—to choose colours."

Besides having an impressive project on her resume, Basian now has an idea of a small but untapped market in social housing, and precious practical knowledge that rounds out her classroom learning.

"This project gave me great insight into what everything is about in interior design."

Digging out after record snow fall a team sport

Michael Brown

During the first 20 days of the new year, nearly a half-metre of snow dumped on the U of A's North Campus. With more snow in three weeks than the university gets in some winters, the U of A's Facilities and Operations staff were stretched to the limit clearing the 47 kilometres of sidewalks and approximately eight kilometres of roads, as well as several hundred building entrances, parking lots and parkade tops.

"I've been here for 28 years and I have never seen this volume of snow," said Murray Brice, supervisor with Buildings and Grounds Services, who has watched a small mountain of snow grow on South Campus with no space to pile snow on North campus. "We've taken more than 5,000 truck loads from the North Campus, South Campus and Michener Park this winter."

Even with 8 operators and two supervisors pushing snow every day since Jan. 3 without a day off, Murray said "it's a matter of all hands on deck" to get a handle on the snow.

"It's not only my guys who really stepped up, but also the university's building service workers who did a great job clearing the pathways and stairs to buildings. The F&O trades division and parking services were involved and I even saw delivery guys shovelling out different loading docks," said Brice. "Everyone really pitched in."

Beyond the snow removal, Brice says the campus community has given his team good feedback for persevering during what often can be a thankless job.

"Overall, the campus has been patient and courteous as we push to get a handle on this."

Michael Brown

Murray Brice at the small mountain of snow at South Campus.

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Festival of Teaching classroom focus gets to the heart of the matter

Jamie Hanlon

For students and staff eagerly awaiting this year's Festival of Teaching, there are a few important changes happening in this year's incarnation.

For one, this festival moves from February to March 7–10. For another, it has expanded from a one-day event to a four-day, full-blown celebration of teaching that strikes where the heart of teaching generally beats—the classroom.

Colleen Skidmore, festival co-chair and vice-provost (academic), said this fourth season needed a bit of a re-envisioning of what the festival was how it would continue the tradition and honour the novel instructional opportunities and methods of U of A faculty.

"We have a call out to professors who are willing to open their learning environment for the festival," she said. "We want this to be an active festival, so we want to see real teaching in action."

Organizers have taken on the ambitious task of canvassing for at least 100 professors to open their classes to the university public for observation. So far, they are about three quarters of the way there. Skidmore says that, while the number of professor participants may have been ambitious given the sheer number of classes across campus at any given time, it was well within their means to accomplish. And it has also meant that U of A satellites, Campus Saint-Jean and Augustana Campus, have taken up the torch to bring the celebration of teaching to their halls as well.

"Augustana has 14 classes that they're going to open to us," said Skidmore, "so one of the days is a special Augustana day."

Also added this year is a keynote address to open the festival, and the choice of an inaugural speaker is someone who is no stranger to teaching or to the U of A. Maria Klawe, who received her undergraduate and doctoral degrees in mathematics, and whose mother taught economics at the U of A, will present March 7. Klawe is currently the president of Harvey Mudd College in California.

While the banner presentations will take place on the last day of the event, the classroom presentations will run throughout the week. The festival will round off with another keynote event and a closing presentation, which Skidmore says will be based on Technology, Entertainment, Design talks, wherein five or six dynamic teachers will give roughly 10-minute TED-style speeches.

And while the event is pulling together quite well, Skidmore says the organizers still want to hear from more professors campus-wide who want to be part of the four-day Festival of Teaching. Individual invitations have gone out to several people on campus, but she is hoping that more will submit their names in an expression of interest.

"I think most professors are pretty modest and wouldn't necessarily think of themselves and their work as being interesting to a broader community," she said. "But they're such fine teachers. We want those day-to-day good teachers."

Stem-cell exhibition broadens debate on issue

Michael Davies-Venn

The topic remains complex and controversial, the technology innovative and promising, and the debate, on stem-cell research, continues unabated. And now the subject is receiving the attention of a group not normally associated with scientific discoveries.

University of Alberta printmaking professor Sean Caulfield, along with U of A Health Law Institute research director and researcher Tim Caulfield, has brought together a group of visual artists from Europe and North America to contribute to the stem-cell debate that often pits politicians, scientists, pundits and religious leaders against each other.

Lianne McTavish, U of A art and design professor, is the curator for *Perceptions of Promise: Biotechnology, Society and Art*, an exhibition on stem-cell research, organized by the Caulfield brothers that is currently showing at Calgary's Glenbow Museum until March 20.

Sean says the artists' contributions, in combination with the work of biomedical scholars and scientists, help advance the public debate on the stem-cell question. "Art has an important role to play in the discourse around biotechnology because it can offer unique articulations of the thoughtful, polarized and often emotionally charged responses the public has towards technology. This exhibition isn't about taking sides in the stem-cell debate; it's about creating a place for reflection."

Such a space in the public consciousness is needed, says Tim, in order to create a middle ground on the debate. He says the biggest ethical issue during the debate, and the one that has caused stem-cell research to become what he describes as a "policy monster," is the moral status of the embryo. Out of that issue have come come extreme language and representations of science, he says.

"It has created a polarization of the depiction of stem-cell research. You have those who are against stem-cell research taking on extreme ideas and saying things like stem cells make for 'reproductive cloning,' 'clone monsters,' 'clone armies,' and the idea that we're going to have half-human-half-animal creatures developed.

"And then on the pro side, those who support stem-cell research—those who want to garner public policy support for the field—you hear that communities, almost out of necessity, are using hyper-representations of the promise of stem-cell research, such as the idea that the technology will help us grow body parts in the future."

Of course, neither one of those extreme representations is true or accurate, said Tim. Nor, he says, are the visual representations in Perceptions of Promise: Biotechnology, Society and Art. Patrons who go to the Glenbow Museum to see the multimedia exhibition will have a lot to ponder—from a sculpture of a human torso that is based on the imagery of CT medical scans and influenced by discussions of the use of stem cells collected from liposuction operations and used for facial creams to drawings of one of the participating artist's chromosomes. Sean hopes the diversity shown in the work offers the debate a different tone.

"I don't want people to go to the exhibition and come out with an answer," Sean said. "I want them to go to the exhibition and have the experience that moves them away from a polarized position to a position of more nuanced questioning. Art provides the space for contemplation, which other forms of communication can do, but sometimes don't."

Supplied

The U of A-led exhibit, "Perceptions of Promise: Biotechnology, Society and Art," will be on at Calgary's Glenbow Museum until March 20.

Exhibit offers a look outside the frame

Ileiren Poon

A new exhibit opening in the University of Alberta's Telus Centre Gallery A will ask viewers to look a bit outside the traditional framework of printed art.

Transcendence: Four Artists, Four Cultures features the work of four internationally renowned print artists, united in their exploration of transcendence. Transcendence includes prints from the University of Alberta Art Collection complemented by prints from the artists' personal collections.

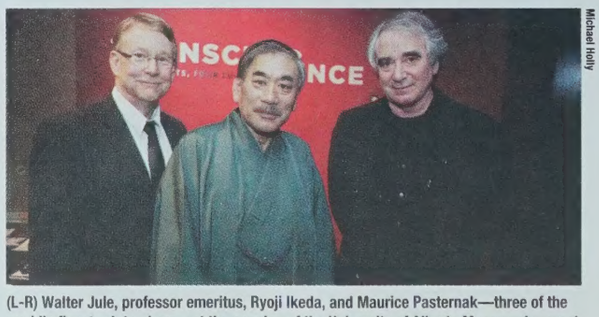
"These artists, whether they're romantic or someone who presents you with an image that is almost anxious—or even with a sense of doom—all have this sense that they're alluding to a reality that we all just don't quite get to," said exhibition co-curator Jim Corrigan. "There's always a sense that something is going on beyond the image. In some cases, you actually see viewers glancing outside of the picture plane, trying to see something that's going on outside of the image."

The printmakers—Stanislaw Fijalkowski from Poland, Ryoji Ikeda from Japan, Maurice Pasternak from Belgium, and Canadian Walter Jule—all have a history with the U of A, said Corrigan.

"These are some of the top print artists in the world today," he said. "They've all intersected here in the university in various ways at various times through the printmaking department, and all of them have worked in the University of Alberta art collection." Though the artists all come from distinct cultures, their collective interest is the focus on the intangible qualities of life, said Corrigan.

"To me all of this work requires the viewer to complete the meaning of the image; it requires the involvement of the viewer," he said. "There's this sense of reality that we see around us, but there's always another side that we're just not quite sure about, and I think all of these artists allude to that sense of emptiness or absence, which is as important as a sense of completeness.

"The absence completes the work."



Michael Holly

(L-R) Walter Jule, professor emeritus, Ryoji Ikeda, and Maurice Pasternak—three of the world's finest printmakers—at the opening of the University of Alberta Museums' newest exhibition "Transcendence: Four Artists, Four Cultures."

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Supervisor taps into Lister Centre energy

staff spotlight

Michael Brown

It was written that famed 15th-century Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon, dissatisfied with his material wealth, went searching in vain for a mythical fountain of youth in the waters off of Florida. According to Delphi Kozmeniuk, the conquistador's first mistake was looking for such restorative powers in physical things, and not people.

"I love the people I work with," said Kozmeniuk, residence administrator for Lister Centre. "They help provide an environment that promotes growth. I feel that it keeps me young.

"The University of Alberta provides so many possibilities in so many areas—everything is constantly changing and because of that there is constant progress."

If eternal youth wasn't enough of a payoff, Kozmeniuk, a U of A bachelor of arts alumna, was recently awarded a U of A Support Staff Recognition Award for her work leading the front-lines team that welcomes and settles in students at Lister Centre. Working alongside Residence Life, the programming and counseling arm of Residence Services, Kozmeniuk's team, in a nutshell, moves the students in, moves them around, gets them settled and then moves them out.

Kozmeniuk's colleagues say this bustling environment brings the best out of their leader, speaking highly of her trust-based management style and her uncanny ability to boost morale.

"[Delphi] lets her staff explore what they feel they are capable of and lets them take the initiative on projects and process," wrote one of the people who nominated her for the award. "In return, her staff feels dedicated to her to perform their jobs well and enjoy coming to work every day.

"This helps to create a cohesive team."

Another person said that Kozmeniuk treats each student's concern individually to ensure a resolution unique to the situation. "She has an open-door policy and always makes time for everyone, even when she is extremely busy and under pressure. She leads by example. It is not uncommon to see her alongside her staff stuffing envelopes during a busy time of year or answering the phone if her staff is busy with other students."

Kozmeniuk's dedication to service is boundless; she often stays late to make sure pressing issues are resolved and acts as a lead on a campus working group designed to find ways of making the residence experience all it can be for international students. Now in her 13th year at the university, Kozmeniuk attributes this zest for her job simply to a love of working with students.

"The best part is I get to see the students grow and change, and that is really remarkable."

Supplied

Delphi Kozmeniuk

Expectations can predict recovery in employees with back pain

Laurie Wang

Can back pain be a self-fulfilling prophecy? Quite possibly.

A recent University of Alberta study by Doug Gross and Michele Crites-Battié, researchers from the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, has found that when employees suffer from back pain, the more they perceive their pain as chronic, the slower their recovery time.

The two looked at 1,040 workers' compensation claims and discovered that employees experiencing a work-related back injury were likely to have negative expectations of their rate of recovery and return-to-work time. This expectation seemed to have a bearing on their recovery time. The study was recently published in the *Journal of Spinal Disorders & Techniques*.

"Back pain is generally perceived to be a chronic condition, so workers often don't think they will ever get better, and we found that this expectation correlates with actual recovery," said Gross. The study also found this correlation is not present in workers with more specific conditions such as a fracture or joint dislocation.

The sample claimants each filled out a work-related recovery expectations survey: 29 per cent had back conditions; 44 per cent had sprains, strains or pain of other body parts besides the back; 23 per cent had specific injuries such as fracture, dislocation or amputation; and five per cent had other compensable conditions such as carpal tunnel syndrome. Fifty-eight per cent of claimants with back pain reported negative expectations, a higher percentage compared to the other groups, which were all within 47 per cent to 51 per cent.

"We analyzed workers' scores on a work-related recovery expectations questionnaire and found that employees with negative expectations about their back pain were about 20 per cent less likely to return to work over the next year," said Crites-Battié.

What does this mean for employees and employers? "Back pain doesn't have to be chronic and people can recover. In fact, most back pain resolves quickly if people stay positive and keep up regular activities as much as possible," Gross said. "Workplace support from colleagues and company leadership is also very important. Co-workers and employers can help injured workers maintain optimistic expectations about return-to-work. A positive and collaborative approach between workers, employers, health-care providers and other stakeholders can go a long way towards helping workers recover from back problems."

> "Back pain is generally perceived to be a chronic condition . . . and we found that this expectation correlates with actual recovery."
>
> Doug Gross

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INTERNATIONAL WEEK 2011

U of A International's crown jewel shows a world on the move

Michael Brown

One of University of Alberta International's signature events, International Week, or I-Week, is five full days of events designed to spark thought, stir discussion and foster debate on current global issues; a week aimed at increasing collective global citizenship, both within the U of A community and beyond.

Much like the collaboration required to tackle issues in an increasingly globalized society, I-Week's award-winning programming is developed each year in partnership with all members of the U of A community—students, staff and faculty—as well as with government departments, non-governmental organizations and the community at large.

This year's theme—World on the Move: Unpacking Migration—calls on I-Week participants to examine global challenges that cause the migration of communities, from human rights struggles and climate change, to economic uncertainty and poverty. Says Rodrigo Loyola, global education programming lead at University of Alberta International, it's also an opportunity to investigate social, political and environmental challenges that result from migration.

World on the Move: Unpacking Migration
JAN 31 – FEB 4

"Our world is constantly changing and people are constantly on the move, whether they're displaced by an ecological disaster or just seeking better life opportunities in a new land," said Loyola. "As our world becomes more globalized and interconnected, we're all impacted by migration. It's important for us to better understand the cause and effects of these movements. We need to ask ourselves, 'Should these movements be happening in the first place?' and if so, how do we deal with issues such as integration and marginalization."

All told, the week will feature 60-plus presentations, panel discussions, exhibits, workshops and film screenings throughout the week.

Loyola encourages participation in all the events, saying that attendees will "learn from the realities of temporary foreign workers and new immigrants who have joined our local community," and that, by taking part, one will be able to "gain new perspectives on global issues like international refugee flows, challenges to human security and sustainable development in a globalized world.

"You're sure to unpack the tools of global citizenship education and reinforce your vigor to change the world around you."

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

INAUGURAL PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS

President Indira Samarasekera will present the first general address of her second term to faculty, staff and students. Please join the president for a coffee and tea reception after the address.

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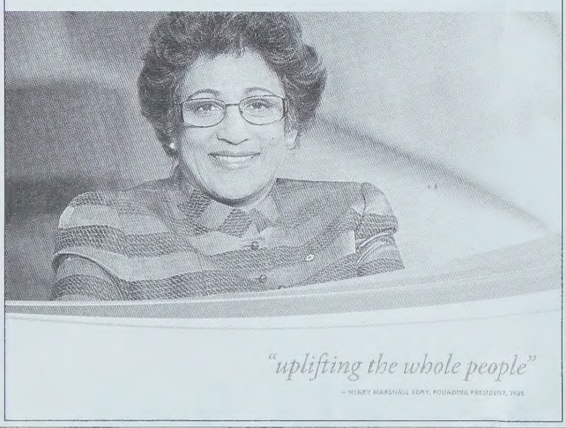

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Augustana to host I-Week Round Dance

Ileiren Poon

The University of Alberta's International Week kicks off this Saturday with an event at the Augustana Campus that is the "heartbeat of the community."

"This is the first time that Augustana Campus has had the honour of hosting the Round Dance," said Petra Cegielny, Aboriginal student advisor at the Camrose campus. "This year is our centennial celebration, and what better way to celebrate than to have a Round Dance and invite the whole community to come and dance with us?"

The Round Dance is a Cree celebration, an event held only in the winter, said Shana Dion, manager of the Aboriginal Student Services Centre on the U of A's North Campus in Edmonton, who helped co-ordinate the dance.

"It's a spiritual and a healing ceremony for my people, and it has become a social dance that everyone is welcome to join," she said. "It's about meeting up with old friends and making new friends. It's about uniting and reuniting, and that's the real beauty of it."

The dance happens only in winter because the Northern Lights are said to be the spirits of relations who have passed on, according to the program for International Week. "The Elders say that the people that have passed on come to dance with us at the Round Dance, in that respect, our relatives are always here with us… In this dance, people move like the Northern Lights by flowing upwards and downwards as they dance around the drum. The beat of the drum is like the heartbeat of the community and all members move as one."

Drummers and dancers will come from all over Alberta and Saskatchewan and beyond to participate, said Dion. "People join up, make friends, spread the word and then the next Round Dance is even bigger."

The event will have further significance for Augustana, said Cegielny. "It was only in 2008 that Augstana offered the Eagle Feather Ceremony to our graduating Aboriginal students," she said. "So we also wanted to invite Aboriginal alumni back to campus for a special ceremony, honouring those who didn't have the opportunity to participate in one on their graduation."

However, in the spirit of International Week, this is an event that is open to everyone, said Dion. "Everybody of all ages and backgrounds is welcome," she said. "It's a good kick-off to International Week because it's about friendship and about continuing those kinds of connections across campus—all our campuses."

Being part of putting the event together has been "powerful," said Cegielny. "I think it's going to take me many, many years to understand what this experience has brought me," she said. "But I think it's going to have a marvellous impact on our whole community and on Camrose."

The event kicks off with a traditional pipe ceremony around 5 p.m., followed by a feast and then dancing until 2 a.m.

"It's going to be a lot of fun," said Dion. "It always is."

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Augustana will be the site of I-Week's traditional Round Dance that kicks off a week of festivities.

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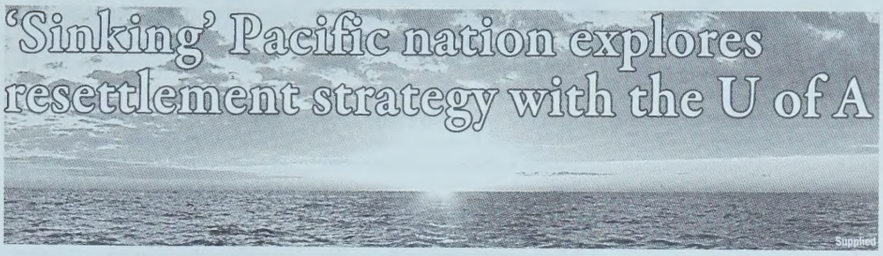
INTERNATIONAL WEEK 2011

'Sinking' Pacific nation explores resettlement strategy with the U of A


Supplied

Randy Lievers

An island nation threatened by rising sea levels from climate change is eyeing Alberta and the University of Alberta as possible partners in relocating and training its people.

A delegation from the Republic of Kiribati, a chain of 33 low-lying islands in the South Pacific, visited Alberta and the U of A in late December to explore educational and training opportunities. More than 90,000 people are expected to be displaced from the island nation within 50 to 100 years as rising sea levels contaminate their fresh water supply.

"We want our people to learn the expectations of other countries and vice versa," said Tebao Awerika, secretary of Kiribati's Ministry of Labour and Human Resource Development, who accompanied Minister Ioteba Redfern during the Alberta visit. "We don't want to be classified as climate refugees. We want to migrate with dignity."

Located approximately 2,000 kilometres north of Fiji, Kiribati—pronounced "Kiribass"—is becoming increasingly vulnerable to the rising Pacific Ocean. Its populated regions are less than three metres above sea level and salt water is already penetrating and polluting island water tables. The UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates Kiribati will become completely uninhabitable within 50 to 100 years, making it the first country expected to disappear due to climate change.

While the country is implementing water supply management strategies to stave off the threat, the Kiribati government acknowledges its people will be forced to relocate and resettle. That's why the government is developing offshore education and employment linkages now, so citizens can migrate more easily in the future.

Kiribati already has workers abroad in countries such as Germany and Australia. The country has also developed an Australian educational link where students complete an 18-month nursing diploma at the Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE, a vocational institute in Queensland. Upon completion, students will have the option to complete a one-year work placement in Australia or matriculate into the Griffith's bachelor of nursing program.

The visit to Alberta stemmed from a conversation between Awerika and the High Commission of Canada in Wellington, New Zealand, plus a chance meeting with an Alberta engineer who mentioned the labour shortage in Alberta's oilsands. The delegation met with private industry in Fort McMurray before meeting with officials from the U of A.

While no formal commitment could be extended, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (International) Britta Baron said the U of A is open to exploring opportunities with the Kiribati government, such as sponsored student agreements for qualified graduate students.

"This university feels very strongly about sustainability and responsibility, not only in our own environment, but also globally," said Baron, adding the U of A could have a role in an overall Alberta response.

I-Week's signature events

Jan. 29

Opening Ceremony Round Dance. As part of Augustana Campus' centennial celebrations, this year's Round Dance, feast and honouring ceremony will be 5 p.m.–2 a.m. Augustana Campus, Camrose.

Jan. 31

Keynote Address – Joseph Boyden. With a musical introduction by Global Voices Choir, Canadian author Joseph Boyden will deliver a lecture entitled, "The Creative Migrant: Chasing the Muse Across Landscapes and Borders." Boyden will share his own insight into some of the journeys undertaken by countless artists over the last century. Noon–1:30 p.m. Myer Horowitz Theatre.

"The Journey Towards Multiculturalism in Canada: The Real Debate." Yasmeen Abu-Laban, professor in the Department of Political Science, will moderate a panel featuring Jack Jedwab, Association for Canadian Studies; Ayman Al-Yassini, Canadian Race Relations Foundation; and Satya Das, Cambridge Strategies Inc., which will debate the effectiveness of multicultural models. Critics of multiculturalism have insisted that the very description of society as multicultural encourages immigrants and their children to preserve their cultures of origin at the expense of national identity. 7:30–9 p.m. 1-430 Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science.

Feb. 1

"The Story That Brought Me Here." Journalist Linda Goyette and writers from around the world will present of evening talking about what brings storytellers to Canada and what it took to get here. 7:30–9 p.m.1-430 Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science.

Feb. 2

"Migrant Labour in North America." Julian Castro-Rea, Department of Political Science, will moderate a panel featuring Yasmeen Abu-Laban, Department of Political Science, and Helen Valliantos, Department of Anthropology, which will discuss the plight of migrant workers in North America, debating whether labour rights of migrants are fully respected. 7:30– 9 p.m. 1-430 Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science.

Feb. 3

"Canada: Land of Immigration – A Myth to be Busted?" Malinda Smith, professor in the Department of Political Science, will moderate a panel featuring Harsha Walia and Anna Kirova, professor in the Faculty of Education, who will discuss the actual success of Canada's changing immigration policies; do we welcome immigrants with open arms or do we give them the cold Arctic shoulder? 7:30–9 p.m. 1-430 Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science.

Feb. 4

"Canadian and American Responses to Refugee Crises." Patrick Forrest, Fulbright Visiting Chair in American Studies, discusses protracted refugee crises and the refugee admission programs of the United States and Canada, identifying potential approaches to facilitate and increase resettlement opportunities by improving efficiencies in the adjudication and admission process. Noon–1 p.m. L1 Humanities Centre.

Closing Ceremony – International Week Concert. Titled "Migratory Music – Cross Border Expressions," this concert will blend an array of artistic expressions that help communicate stories of migration. Hosted by CBC's Mark Connolly, the festivities will include a live painting by Carla Rae Gilday and Just Joe Clarke; Edmonton-based storyteller, Aboriginal dancer and flutist Amanda Woodward; and hip-hop brothers from Sudan, the Over Achievers. Tickets available at the International Centre, BlackByrd Myoozik and the Students' Union Info Booths. 7 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

Migration exhibition promises to take viewers on a virtual global tour

Michael Davies-Venn

A two-week photo exhibition that promises to take viewers on a virtual tour around the world opened at the Enterprise Square Extension Gallery Jan. 24. The show is one of more than 60 events observing International Week at the University of Alberta.

Sticking to I-Week's theme, "World on the Move: Unpacking Migration," members from the Edmonton community, including U of A students, staff and alumni, have brought the world—from the Panama Canal to Tanzania—to Edmonton with their cameras.

Diana Keto, communications coordinator with U of A's International Global Education Program, says a common thread runs through the images selected for the exhibition.

"All together, the pictures, all of which are really great pieces of art, tell stories about movement and migration happening around the world. Just from viewing the 20 photos that were selected for this exhibition, participants of the exhibit can take a virtual journey around the world. The photos are great pieces of art and they also show the good and bad sides to migration in an artistic way," she said.

Keto says more than 200 pictures were submitted for the exhibition, which is in its fourth year, and submissions were entered into a competition. U of A alum Neeraj Prakash's photo of a young girl in a small village in northern India peering over a barbed-wire fence at a tourist sightseeing tour of her village, entitled "Beyond the Wire," is the overall winner. Keto says the image illustrates one of the issues around migration.

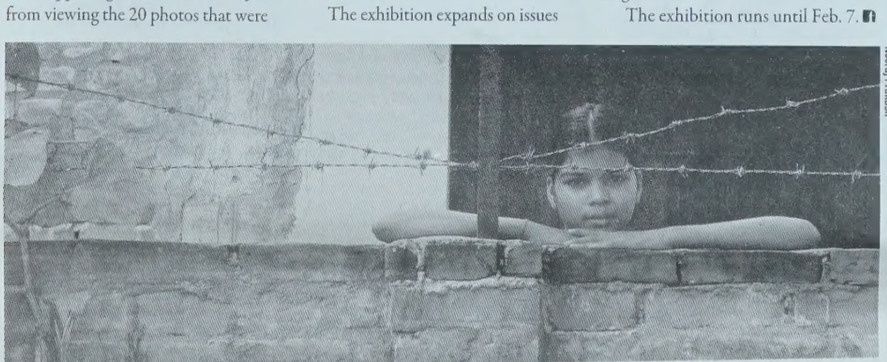
"It's a metaphor for some people's inability to migrate. You could tell from looking at the picture that the girl in it would have a hard time leaving where she is. The picture shows the physical barrier between east and the west, and you could tell that the girl is on one side and we're on the other," said Keto.

The exhibition expands on issues of migration to include movement by animals. For example, "Left Behind," by Benjamin Fowler, shows a lone seal clinging to a slab of ice in the Gulf of Alaska. "It seems like it was left behind by poor environmental regulation," said Keto.

Other images in the exhibition include "Forgotten Hometown," taken in China's Guangdong district in the city of Chaozhou by third-year medicine student Timothy Chan. He says the picture exposes one of the main reasons behind migration.

"Walking through the empty streets and abandoned homes of my ancestral hometown, I couldn't help but feel blessed," said Chan. "My grandfather left this rural village in China 50 years ago in order to make a living for his family. Similarly, my parents immigrated to Canada 20 years ago in search of a better life. Each left their home—familiar and dear to them—in hopes that their children would have a brighter future."

The exhibition runs until Feb. 7.


Neeraj Prakash

"Beyond the Wire," taken by Neeraj Prakash, was named top photo at the I-Week photo exhibit.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
UNITED WAY 2010 CAMPAIGN
FINAL REPORT

Many thanks

To our staff, retirees, students, campus businesses and prize donors.

GOAL: 226 LEADERS OF THE WAY TOTAL: 230

GOAL: 90 CAMPUS LEADERS TOTAL: 82

GOAL: 35 EVERYDAY HERO TOTAL: 43

TOTAL DOLLARS RAISED: $651,191

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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Canada's longest continually accredited business school extends streak

The Alberta School of Business has once again maintained accreditation status from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business—the premier global accreditation body for business schools. First accredited in 1968, the Alberta School of Business was the first business school in Canada to receive AACSB accreditation.

"The long-standing accreditation speaks to ongoing excellence and engagement—the very culture of our business school. Excellence in teaching, research and citizenship and the engagement of our faculty, staff, students, alumni and donors in their classrooms and communities, have all contributed to this success," said Dean Mike Percy.

This accreditation is the hallmark of excellence in business education and has been earned by less than five per cent of the world's business schools. Today there are 607 business schools in 38 countries that are members of the AACSB, including 36 Canadian schools. Of the 36 Canadian business schools, 18 are now accredited, with the University of Victoria receiving their initial accreditation this year.

Oilsands technology could automate malaria diagnostics

Technology for use in the oilsands developed by engineering professor Sirish Shah and master's student Yashasvi Purwar could make a difference in helping doctors diagnose malaria.

The technology Shah has developed uses computers to seek out and identify specific information used to define the interface between oil and water that is at a boil. The outcome is that less oil is inadvertently piped as waste into tailings ponds.

It turns out the technology can also be used to spot and count malaria parasites that have infected red blood cells.

Presently, lab technicians have to peer through a microscope and count the number of red blood cells on a slide—and the number of cells with malaria parasites inside them. Magnifying the challenge exponentially is the fact that the technician must view up to 10 slides per patient.

Shah says the beauty of automated malaria tests is that they can be done remotely with transfer of digital images for diagnostic confirmation. And the work he and Purwar are doing will be reduced to low-resolution scales, so that even older, slower computers can run the programs easily using the older technology that is available.

"It's amazing to be able to apply automated detection for a disease in developing countries where there is no technology and everything is done manually," said Shah.

U of A ringette team raised $90,000 for cancer research

Over the Jan. 22 weekend, the University of Alberta ringette team raised $90,000 at its second annual Ringette Scores on Cancer Tournament.

Instead of paying costly tournament fees, each ringette player is asked to raise a minimum of $100. Last year, the tournament raised $55,000.

All told, 18 minor ringette teams of various age from across Alberta participated in the tournament, which also included a scavenger hunt, a banner making contest and face painting in a fun room, run by U of A ringette players. The U of A athletes also worked at the raffle tables and refereed all the tournament games.

The weekend wasn't all work. On Jan. 22, the U of A players soundly beat a team made up of Edmonton media personalities.

"The tournament's main goals are to raise money for the Cross Cancer Institute and have fun while doing it," said U of A ringette member Paige Parsons.

2011 Alberta Survey on Physical Activity indicates downward trend

The 2011 Alberta Survey on Physical Activity published by the Alberta Centre for Active Living reports that 54 per cent of adult Albertans are physically active enough to receive health benefits, down from 58.5 per cent in 2009 and 62.4 per cent in 2007.

Tanya Berry, fitness professor and study co-author, says that the decrease can be partly attributed to Alberta's aging population and the fact that "in today's society we have engineered physical activity out of much of our lives."

Berry also noted that adults need to be physically active at least 150 minutes a week to get health benefits, including light to vigorous activity every day. "Clearly, about half of Albertans simply aren't active enough, for a variety of reasons we need to know about and explore."

According to study co-author John Spence, associate dean (research) in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, added that the survey found that 75 per cent of Albertans would use a provincial adult fitness tax credit if one was available, with higher-income Albertans more likely to use the fitness tax credit than lower-income Albertans. "This suggests that a fitness tax credit might be one means of promoting more physical activity for higher-income Albertans, but that other or additional measures or approaches should be considered for lower-income Albertans."

Unwashed jeans stand the test of time

Bev Betkowski

So how gross is it to wear the same jeans day in and day out, without washing them for over a year?

It's actually not so bad, says University of Alberta student Josh Le. And, as it turns out, not so unhealthy, either.

After 15 months and one week of wearing his raw denim jeans, Le thought it was time to wash them. Just for fun, he and one of his U of A professors, Rachel McQueen, turned it into an informal scientific experiment, taking bacterial counts from the pants, then tossing them into the washer, and doing the same thing again a couple of weeks later.

Aside from the psychological yuk factor, the bacteria load on the jeans was surprisingly harmless. Though the bacterial count was high, the strains found were not a threat to human health, said McQueen, a professor of textile science in the Department of Human Ecology.

"I expected to find some bacteria associated with the lower intestine such as E. coli, but was surprised to find there weren't any, just lots of normal skin bacteria," said McQueen, who carries out research in the development of odour and its relationship to bacteria in textiles.

As well, McQueen found that bacteria growth was virtually the same from the jeans after 15 months with no washing, compared to two weeks after being washed.

The counts showed between 8,000 and 10,000 colony-forming units per square centimetre in the crotch area of the jeans, 1,500 to 2,500 on the back and 1,000 to 2,000 on the front.

"This shows that, in this case at least, the bacteria growth is no higher if the jeans aren't washed regularly."

Le bought his pants in fall of 2009, taking a cue from a friend who wore a pair of raw-denim jeans through Grade 12 as part of a growing fashion trend. "I decided to test for myself raw denim's claims to perfectly fitting jeans and explore the trend," he said. Le took weekly photos of his jeans to document the evolution of the garment as it took on its unique patina of wear.

He also wanted a pair of jeans that would mould to his body shape, and treasures every customized crease and fold.

Raw denim, also known as dry denim, hasn't been chemically treated or pre-washed. After months of wear, the jeans will fade and crease to the wearer's body. Washing the jeans removes the excess dye and makes the fading and creases more pronounced.

Le also wanted to find out if the impact on the environment could be eased by wearing clothing longer between washings, and that would appear to be the case, said McQueen.

Though McQueen doesn't recommend waiting a year or more to launder garments, the trial findings indicate that going longer between washings doesn't appear to pose a risk in the general population.

"Most bacterial organisms transferred into jeans come from the person wearing them, and providing there are no cuts or abrasions to the skin, the bacteria should not harm the wearer," McQueen said.

While stringent laundering practices are important in many workplaces such as hospitals and kitchens, washing an everyday garment like a pair of jeans less often, "has greater potential benefits to the environment than to the potential risk of the wearer."

Le wanted to "show the world that wearing jeans for a period of time isn't that bad." He had no problem wearing his form-fitting denims for more than a year, even sleeping in them sometimes. "You wake up and already have your pants chosen for the day. And I think I gained more friends and had more conversations because of the jeans."

He wore them for five out of every seven days during the summer and more steadily over the winter, but aired them out three times a week "to let them breathe" and to keep odours at bay. He didn't experience any ill effects such as skin rashes.

"It's encouraging to see that the raw denim movement isn't dangerous for your health—in my case, at least. It supports the idea that washing your clothes less frequently isn't as bad—maybe more frequently than 15-month intervals between washes—but maybe less frequently than after every wear," he grinned.

He added: "If anything, I learned that I'm much cleaner than I thought!"

Bev Betkowski

Josh Le and his unwashed jeans.

classified ads

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talks & events

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2011 I-Week events

Jan. 30 to Feb. 12

On the CASE: Child Advocates for Social Empowerment. News of modernization and economic growth masks the reality that India remains a largely agricultural society. Due to this transience, India's neediest citizens are often labeled migrants and their basic needs are overlooked. Exhibit will include hand-sewn bags for sale. TELUS Centre Foyer.

Jan. 31 to Feb. 4

From, Come and Go: Mapping the Campus. Through a variety of mediums, you can document where you are from, see why others have come and where they will go. 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. SUB's Wall of Gold.

Extinction of Indigenous Peoples in Colombia: Photo exhibit by Juan Pablo Gutierrez. This exhibit explores indigenous peoples of Colombia, at risk of physical or cultural extinction, caused by the effects of the 50-year-long armed conflict in their country. Dinwoodie Lounge.

Jan. 31

Refugees and the Environment: A Story of Cause and Effect. Jason Unger, of the Environmental Law Centre, will talk about refugee movement and displacement by climate impacts are an increasing concern for both the developed and developing world. 2–3 p.m. 237A Law Centre.

The Experiences of Iranian Baha'i Refugees. Mitra Knight, Campus Association for Baha'i Studies, will take a look into the violation of Iranian Baha'i refugees' basic human rights in Iran, the struggles they have gone through to come to Canada as refugees, and the opportunities they have since arriving in Canada. 2–3 p.m. 217/219 TELUS Centre.

Feb. 1

Soaring Sounds. Come hear these musical talents as they mesh and blend beats from around the world. From the mbira to the drums. Noon–1 p.m. SUB Stage.

Feb. 2

Sustainable Peacebuilding through Popular Music in the Buduburam Refugee Camp. Music professor Michael Frishkopf and political scientist Andy Knight will discuss whether the global community has a responsibility to intervene when human rights—civil, political, social or economic—are violated. 10–11 a.m. 150 TELUS Centre.

Play Around the World. Join this interactive workshop and get involved in learning about and practicing traditional games from around the world. 1:30–3 p.m. 2-103 Education Centre North.

Food for Thought. The 21st century is bringing the single largest migration in the history of humankind: the mass flow of people into urban spaces. Join us to examine the impact that our rapidly changing rural landscapes have on the world's poorest. 5:15–7 p.m. 2-009 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex.

Feb. 3

Out of the Stacks and Into the Community: The Library's Approach to Newcomers. Toni Samek, of the School of Library and Information Studies, will be part of a panel to discuss the Edmonton Public Library's responsibilities in ensuring that the library is a welcoming and relevant place for newcomers and members of the multicultural community. 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Tory Lecture Theatre 1.

The Migration of Ideas. Edgard Rodriguez, from the International Development Research Centre, will give a talk about the migration of skilled labour and ideas out of developing nations. Noon–1 p.m. E1-017 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex.

Where Does the Flow Go? Exploring Educational Implications of Migration. Partly through visual media, this interactive workshop seeks to challenge unidirectional and finite associations with migration and encourages participants to explore educational implications of the flow of global citizens. 2–3:30 p.m. 2-103 Education Centre.

Obscenity, Aesthetics and Moral Reform in Colonial India. Deana Heath, professor at UC Berkeley, will be on hand to guide this lecture. 3:30–5:30 p.m. 4-5 Alberta School of Business.

Limiting Refugees' Potential: Canada's Transportation Loan Policy. Government-sponsored refugees are required by Canadian policy to pay for their medical exam and travel to Canada. As a result, most refugees begin their new lives in debt to the federal government. Come learn how the refugee transportation loan affects families. 3:30–5 p.m. 236/238 TELUS Centre.

Conflict, Forced Migration and Human Rights. Political scientist Tom Keating will moderate a panel featuring Alice Khin, a lecturer in the Faculty of Nursing, as participants share their experiences with conflict, flight and the struggle to defend human rights. 5–6:30 p.m. 150 TELUS Centre.

Feb. 4

Migration in Southern Africa: A Survival Strategy. Nancy Hannemann, Kwara State University in Nigeria, and political science chair Andy Knight, will moderate a panel discussing the problems that have arisen with two decades of forced migration in the Southern African Development Community. 10 a.m.–noon. 217/219 TELUS Centre.

I-Week Quiz. The quiz is an exciting and challenging tradition that provides a unique set of questions on global issues ready to test each team's IQ: their international quotient. For more information, contact the International Centre at 780-492-2692 or email Khadija.Jetha@ualberta.ca. 3–5 p.m. in the lobby of HUB International.

Jan. 29

Great Northern Concrete Toboggan Race 2011 Race Day. Come watch sleds from across the country, weighing up to 300 lbs and carrying five people, race down the hill at the Edmonton Ski Club. 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Third Annual RMSA Winter Gala. Dinner and Dance, 5:30 p.m., Dinwoodie Lounge. Members: $35; non-RMSA members, $40; Faculty and staff: $45.

Golden Bears and Panda's Basketball vs University of Winnipeg Wesmen 6 p.m. Main Gym. For a complete schedule of U of A athletics go to www.bears.ualberta.ca.

Jan. 31

The Canada-European Union Trade Agreement: Implications and Effects. Come explore the implications and impacts that the Canada-European Union Trade Agreement would have on Canadian universities, students, municipalities and communities. 3–4 p.m. 134 TELUS Centre.

DoCS: Public Empowerment and Campus Sustainability. Learn about a student-initiated campus-sustainability project that utilizes deliberative democracy and draws on a rich global history of successful and meaningful community engagement. 4–5 p.m. 129 Education Centre South.

Feb. 1

CIHR Electronic Submission Workflow Process. The workflow process for electronic submission to the winter 2011 CIHR Open Operating Grant Program and common submission errors will be described, followed by questions and answers. 11 a.m.–noon. Room 1-040 Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation. To register go to http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca.

Feb. 2

Physical Activity and Cardiorespiratory Fitness in the Prevention and Management of T2D in Youth. Kristy Wittmeier, physiotherapy innovation and best practice co-ordinator at Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre, will present a seminar. Noon–1 p.m. 1-040 Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation.

High Risk Youth Uncensored: An Educational Exchange. This theatre piece challenges our understanding of high-risk street youth in Edmonton. 5–6:30 p.m. 4-104 Education Centre North.

Feb. 5

Kilburn Memorial Concert. MACH 5 Ilya Kaler, violin, with Janet Scott Hoyt, piano 8 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

Feb. 8

Developing Budgets. The seminar will cover types of eligible costs, salaries, indirect costs, completing the budget modules and writing a strong budget justification. 2–3:30 p.m. 2-117 Clinical Sciences. To register, go to http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca.

Feb. 9

Eric Geddes Breakfast Lecture. Don Lowry, president and CEO of Epcor, will give a talk entitled, "Building on Momentum: Governance, Growth and the Future of EPCOR." 7–8:30 a.m. Royal Glenora Club, 11160 River Valley Road.

Feb. 10

Educated Wallet -- Home Sweet Home. Looking to purchase your first home? Get expert advice from realtors and a mortgage specialist so you can make an informed decision. 6–8 p.m. TELUS Centre 236. $15 per person; $25 per couple. www.ualberta.ca/alumni/educatedwallet

Feb. 11–13

Rewriting Lyotard is an international conference that focuses on the work of Jean-François Lyotard, a 20th-century philosopher whose writings have been influential across the social sciences and humanities. 236/38 TELUS Centre.

Feb. 11

3rd Annual Kenya Ceramic Project Winter Gala. The aim is to raise money for the production of water filters in Kenya, as well as the distribution of filters to rural Kenyan families and education on how to use the filters correctly. The event will feature a dinner, silent auction, speakers and musical entertainment. Tickets are $100. 6 p.m. Faculty Club. www.kenyanceramics.org

MACH 6 Early Music Jolaine Kerley and friends. 8 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

Feb. 12

Johann Strauss Foundation and U of A Annual Johann Strauss Ball. A Formal Viennese Ball in Support of Music Scholarships for Study in Austria; 5:30 p.m. Aberhart Centre.

laurels

Philip Baker, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, has been appointed to the Alberta Health Services Quality and Safety Committee to bolster the committee's clinical and research expertise. The committee's purpose is to help the AHS Board make clinical decisions that ensure the quality and safety of health services, build a culture of trust for patients and health-care providers, and provides equitable access to provincial health services for all Albertans.

Jan Jagodzinski, a Professor in the Department of Secondary Education, has been awarded the National Art Education Association's 2011 Manuel Barken Memorial Award. Jagodzinski was awarded the prize for an article he wrote in 2008, "Postmetaphysical Vision: Art Education's Challenge in An Age of Globalized Aesthetics (A Mondofesto)," published in "Studies in Art Education."

A couple of birds in hand and a few from the bush

Mohammedali Sakheri

"Time in Flight" by Mohammedali Sakheri, taken in Paris last year, is part of I-Week's photo exhibit being held at Enterprise Square until Feb. 7

Photos: Michael Holly, Marketing and Communication Services

The essence of mankind

laid bare on stage

When a 70-member student orchestra took the stage at the Winspear Centre for the Arts Jan. 24, they put on a show for Edmonton like none other. According to Petar Dundjerski, University of Alberta music professor and the concert's conductor, Making Music: A Gala Fundraiser, connected the dots between humanity and classical music.

"Sex, intrigue, violence, love, betrayal and loyalty remain very much relevant in today's world, whether they are woven through the fabric of business or everyday existence. We see these themes in the news or on television shows," said Dundjerski. "What we wanted to do is make the themes relevant through this concert."

5
KEVAN WARNER
UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
108 BARD

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Pages 3
A reservoir of experience
Killam winner brings research on the road into the classroom

Page 4
University 101
The Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Page 12
Dodge-ball country
Dodge-ball world record returns home

Volume 48 Issue 11 | February 11, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

U of A's Nobel Laureate wins top poetry prize

Michael Davies-Venn

Derek Walcott, the University of Alberta's first Nobel laureate faculty member, has scored one of the highest recognitions in British poetry. Walcott has won the T.S. Eliot Prize for Poetry for his collection of poems, *White Egrets*, which was partially completed during his time at the U of A.

Walcott was with friends in his native St. Lucia celebrating Nobel laureate Week when news came that he had won. English professor Bert Almon was there and says Walcott, the man of words, was at a loss for them when told of his new accolade.

"It was the day after his birthday and we had gone out. When we returned his partner Sigrid met us at the door and said, 'Derek, there is a wonderful birthday gift for you in the living room.'

"We walked into the living room; other friends were there, and Sigrid said, 'you won the T.S. Elliot prize.' Derek was quite overwhelmed. He was speechless. It's one of the most important poetry prizes in the English-speaking world," Almon says.

Anne Stevenson, chair of the judges, called *White Egrets* a "moving, risk-taking and technically flawless book."

"Any poem you undertake is risk taking because you don't know if you're going to be clear," Walcott says. He adds his daughter's home influenced the title of the book. "In Santa Cruz in Trinidad and Tobago, at my daughter's house, the egrets come out onto the lawn and they're very beautiful. It's a very exhilarating site to see the egrets on the ground.

"To a certain extent, the book is about self-renewal," said Walcott, reserving comment on the book's themes. "It's up to the reader to find out, but I guess old age is one of them."

Walcott's relationship with the U of A goes back to 2007, when he read a poem while accompanied by a percussionist. During the same visit Walcott also taught a master's class with students from over a dozen countries, where the poet asked each student to translate *Dante's Inferno* into their language and read it aloud.

Continued on page 2

Front row reporting

Supplied

Rick Mercer of the "Rick Mercer Report" joined the Faculty of Engineering's concrete toboggan team Jan. 29 during the Great Northern Concrete Toboggan Race held at Connors Hill.

Drug intended for diabetes may help Alzheimer's patients

Raquel Maurier

A researcher with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry has discovered that a drug originally intended for diabetes may hold promise in the fight against Alzheimer's disease.

During tests in his lab, Jack Jhamandas, of the faculty's Division of Neurology and his team discovered that the drug AC253, developed for diabetes but never put on the market, blocked the toxic effects of a protein that is deposited in large quantities in the brains of Alzheimer's patients. This beta amyloid protein, which is linked to the cause of Alzheimer's, makes brain cells toxic—ultimately causing them to die.

"From the point-of-view of therapies, it may open up some new avenues for us to explore in terms of treatment for Alzheimer's disease," says Jhamandas. "I think patients with this condition, their families and caregivers, live on a word called 'hope' and this is a type of a discovery that engenders that hope; that ignites that hope and that keeps it burning."

Jhamandas and his research team, who are funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, published their results in the peer-reviewed *American Journal of Pathology* in January.

The team reported two other significant discoveries related to Alzheimer's. They found a second way to block the toxic effects of beta amyloid protein, using a relatively new technique to "silence" a gene involved in the process of brain cell death. By silencing the gene, numerous processes triggering cell death were blocked, so they were able to prevent brain cells from dying.

"We altered the genes and low and behold, beta amyloid protein lost its ability to kill brain cells as effectively as it normally would," says Jhamandas.

The third finding, this one in collaboration with David Westaway, a fellow Alzheimer's researcher in the faculty, relates to basic understanding of the disease. They discovered the genes that could be silenced weren't everywhere in the brain. Both these genes and the toxic protein were only found in large quantities in the areas of the brain responsible for memory, learning and cognition, says Jhamandas.

> "I think patients with this condition, their families and caregivers, live on a word called 'hope' and this is a type of a discovery that engenders that hope; that ignites that hope and that keeps it burning."
>
> Jack Jhamandas

"It was quite a surprising observation. We're not sure what it fully means, so we are in the process of looking at this in brain tissue from Alzheimer's patients."

Jhamandas said some of the next steps for his research team are to inject a compound into the brains of lab models to see if learning and memory problems can be stopped or prevented. If that is the case, "it really could be the launching point for a development of compounds that could be tried in human clinical trials."

End of an era for the U of A's old Main Gym

Story page 9

Online registration and more

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U of A scientists help overturn forest legislation in Brazil

Folio Staff

Thousands of hectares of tropical dry forests in the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais are now safe from logging, thanks to efforts by University of Alberta Faculty of Science researchers led by Arturo Sánchez-Azofeifa.

A Brazil court unanimously overturned Minas Gerais State Law, which would have removed 16.1 thousand square kilometres of tropical dry forests from protection. This would have resulted in a significant loss of biodiversity and ecosystems services such as weather regulation and water production.

> "[This decision] provides a great example of our commitment, as the Faculty of Science, to enhancing our global-citizenship effort."
>
> Gregory Taylor

Sánchez-Azofeifa says the overturned law would have allowed up to 70 per cent clearing of these forests for economic purposes, providing only limited, temporary fiscal benefits for a small number of large investors.

The court's decision, according to Sánchez-Azofeifa, provides a significant victory for the protection of other endangered ecosystems outside of the Amazon Basin that have been neglected over the years. In addition, the decision opens the door for further strategies for conservation of tropical dry forests in Brazil.

Sánchez-Azofeifa, a principal investigator with Tropi-Dry—a collaborative research network sponsored by the U of A and the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research—Mario Marcos do Espirito Santo, from the Universidad Estadual de Montes Claros in Minas Gerais, Brazil, submitted evidence that the forests re-designated under the new state law are also protected by federal law, which takes precedence.

They also supplied key data that clearly indicates that the Minas Gerais forests should be included in the Atlantic forest preservation area, and as such, be protected by federal decree.

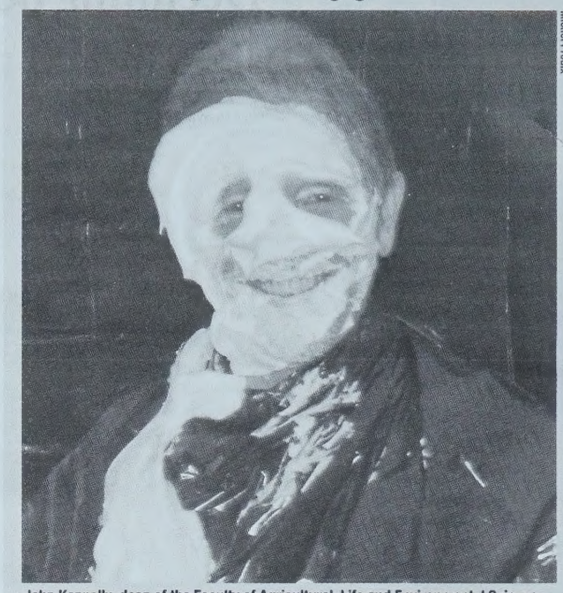
"Many years of ecological and social-science research conducted by Tropi-Dry, and aimed at describing the human and ecological dimensions of this endangered Minas Gerais biome, clearly showed that these forests belong in the federally protected category," Sánchez-Azofeifa said.

Marcos do Espirito Santo stressed, "he data were key to this success."

Dean of Science Gregory Taylor said the news is a great example of the significant impact scientific research can have in securing the future of important ecosystems and landscapes around the globe.

"Years of work by researchers in our Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences has contributed to this significant landmark decision in South America—something we can justifiably be proud of and something that raises our scientific profile even higher," said Taylor. "It provides a great example of our commitment, as the Faculty of Science, to enhancing our global-citizenship efforts."

A pie-eating grin



Michel Proulx

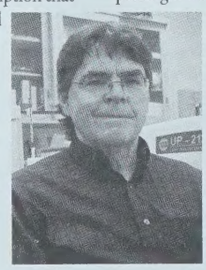
John Kennelly, dean of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Science, was pied Jan. 28 as part of a faculty food drive in support of the Campus Food Bank.

Dinosaurs may have survived extinction by 700,000 years

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta researchers have determined that a fossilized dinosaur bone found in New Mexico confounds the long-established assumption that the age of dinosaurs ended between 65.5 and 66 million years ago.

The U of A team, led by Larry Heaman from the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, put the femur bone of a sauropod through an elaborate testing procedure and found it's only 64.8 million years old.



Larry Heaman

Heaman says that means this particular sauropod was alive about 700,000 years after the mass extinction event, which many paleontologists believe wiped all non-avian dinosaurs off the face of Earth forever. It's commonly believed debris from a giant meteorite impact blocked out the sun, causing extreme climate conditions and killing vegetation worldwide.

"If our uranium-lead dating technique bears out on more fossils, than the whole end-of-the-age-of-dinosaurs paradigm will have to be revised," said Heaman.

Heaman and colleagues used a method called uranium-lead dating to target the age of the fossilized femur of the sauropod. A laser beam unseated minute particles of the bone, which then underwent isotopic analysis.

"This new technique not only allows the age of fossil bone to be determined," said Heaman, "but also potentially distinguishes the type of food a dinosaur ate."

Heaman explains that living bone contains very low levels of uranium, but during fossilization (typically less than 1,000 years after death) bone is enriched in elements like uranium. The uranium atoms in the bone then decay to lead and, once fossilization is complete, the uranium-lead clock starts ticking. Heaman says the isotopic composition of lead determined in the sauropod's femur bone is, therefore, a measure of its absolute age.

Currently, paleontologists date dinosaur fossils using a technique called relative chronology. Where possible, a fossil's age is estimated relative to the known depositional age of a layer of sediment in which it was found. Heaman says this method is limited because researchers have to be certain of the age of the rock layers surrounding the fossil.

Another potential weakness in the relative chronology approach cited by Heaman is that, over millions of years, geologic and environmental forces may cause erosion of a fossil-bearing layer of rock and cause the fossil to drift or migrate from its original layer in the strata. Heaman says his direct-dating technique eliminates that kind of false age reading.

Heaman and his research colleagues say there could be several reasons why the New Mexico sauropod came from a line of dinosaurs that survived the great mass extinction events of the late Cretaceous period or, as it's also known, the KT extinction event. Heaman says it's possible that in some areas the vegetation wasn't wiped out, and a number of the sauropod species survived. The researchers also say the potential survival of dinosaur eggs during extreme climatic conditions needs to be explored.

Heaman says uranium lead testing could open new doors in dinosaur research.

"Our technique could eliminate old dating errors," said Heaman. "Current theories, that dinosaurs on opposite sides of the world lived at the same time because their bones are similar, can now be proven or disproven by direct aging of the fossils."

Nobel laureate named

continued from page 1

U of A political science professor, Malinda Smith, said Walcott wanted the students to determine how the poem would read when translated, recalling an extraordinary debate with an Italian student.

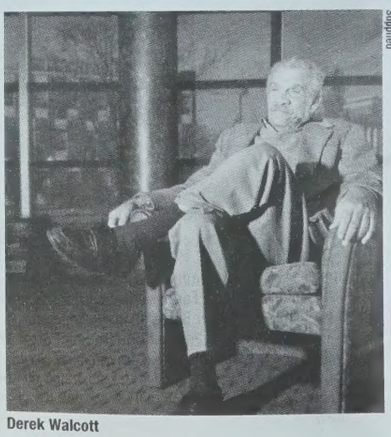
"Afterward I remember Derek saying, 'wasn't that great? That student sure gave it to me,'" Smith said. "It was magical. He was very impressed by it. He also said that he'd never been in a class with students from so many countries, speaking different languages."

Walcott joined the U of A shortly after on a three-year contract that will end this fall. Smith and Almon have both attended Walcott's classes. Almon, who also teaches a course with him, says the poet has had a tremendous impact on students.

"I've been studying poetry all of my life and I attended all of the classes he taught because I could learn so much from him," Almon said. "He has an immense command of the language and literature. He's been an inspiration to the students and I think in a few years some of them will show how much they've profited from his influence by publishing their own works."

Smith said Walcott does not like the charm of fame, which comes in handy in relating to his students. "When I watched him give feedback, he concentrated on each student," Smith said. "That memory will carry on with students because he does not come across as a Nobel Laureate who's above them.

"It's rare for undergraduate students to have that direct teaching access to someone like Derek, and that makes the U of A one of the few places where this rich experience would happen."



Supplied

Derek Walcott

Winter slips and trips prevention

Folio Staff

No matter how carefully snow and ice are removed from University of Alberta property, you may encounter slippery surfaces during an Edmonton winter. Be aware of the danger and take appropriate precautions. The Office of Environmental Health and Safety offers these suggestions:

- Choose appropriate footwear that will provide traction on snow and ice.
- Plan ahead and think about the best route to your destination. Give yourself a little extra time to get there.
- Walk on designated walkways whenever possible. It can be hazardous to take shortcuts over snow piles or areas not cleared of snow.
- Don't carry heavy objects in slippery conditions.
- Beware of "black ice" and slippery conditions on surfaces that have been cleared. Water vapour can freeze on cold surfaces and form an extra-thin, nearly invisible layer of ice that can look like a wet spot on the pavement. Such conditions often appear early in the morning or in areas that are shaded from the sun.
- Before stepping off the curb, make sure any approaching vehicles have come to a complete stop.
- Take small steps.
- Never run on slippery surfaces. Walk slowly and keep both hands out to stay balanced.
- Use handrails while walking up and down stairs.
- When exiting or entering a vehicle, hold on to the vehicle for support.
- When entering a building, be sure to use floor mats and boot cleaners to remove moisture from the soles of your shoes. This will help protect you, as well as others who follow, from having to walk on wet or slippery surfaces.

Please report slippery conditions on University of Alberta property. Call the Facilities and Operations Customer Call Centre at 780-492-4833.

Declining polar-bear litter sizes linked to loss of sea ice

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta researchers have linked the reproductive ecology of polar bears in Hudson Bay with declining litter sizes and loss of sea ice.

"Projected reductions in the number of newborn cubs are a significant threat to the western Hudson Bay polar-bear population," said lead researcher Péter Molnár, from the U of A's Department of Biological Sciences. "If climate change continues unabated the viability of the species across much of the Arctic will be in question."

Molnar and U of A colleagues Andrew Derocher and Mark Lewis used data collected beginning in the 1990s to analyze how long, during the polar bear's hunting season, Hudson Bay is frozen over and the amount of energy pregnant females can store up before denning and birthing.

"An early spring-ice break up reduces the hunting season, making it difficult for pregnant females to even support themselves, let alone give birth to and raise cubs," said Derocher.

> "An early spring-ice break up reduces the hunting season, making it difficult for pregnant females to even support themselves, let alone give birth to and raise cubs."
>
> Andrew Derocher

Pregnant polar bears take to a maternity den for up to eight months and during this time no food is available and they survive on their fat stores.

In the early 1990s, researchers estimate, 28 per cent of energy-deprived pregnant polar bears in the Hudson Bay region failed to produce a litter. Researchers say energy-deprived pregnant females will either not enter a maternity den or they will naturally abort.

Using mathematical modeling to estimate the energetic impacts of a shortened hunting season, the research team calculated the following scenarios: If spring break up in Hudson Bay comes one month earlier than in the 1990s, 40 to 73 per cent of pregnant female polar bears will not reproduce. If the ice breaks up two months earlier than in the 1990s, 55 to a full 100 per cent of all pregnant female polar bears in western Hudson Bay will not have a cub.

The polar-bear population of western Hudson Bay is currently estimated to be around 900, which is down from 1,200 bears in the past decade. The number of polar bears across the Arctic is estimated to be between 20,000 and 25,000.

"Because the Hudson Bay polar bears are the most southerly population, they are the first to be affected by the global-warming trend," said Molnar. "However, if temperatures across the Arctic continue to rise, much of the global population of polar bears will be at risk."

Early spring break up in Hudson Bay is thought to depress polar-bear populations.

Killam winner tests depth of still waters in classroom

Michael Brown

teaching & learning, learning & teaching

Brian Jones has a reservoir of research experience to offer his students.

The reservoir geologist in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences has been plying his trade at the University of Alberta for 34 years. Over that time, Jones has been named the C.R. Stelck Chair in Petroleum Geology, a member of the Royal Society of Canada and now a Killam Professor.

"The U of A has been a great place to work. We have all the research facilities that we need; it is hard to find anywhere else that has the same level and calibre of equipment and technical staff to help run the machines," said Jones. "The university has always provided me with an opportunity to do my research, and I enjoy working with the students."

Jones spends a lot of time focused on the precipitates (carbonates and silica) and microbes that are found around hot springs in such places as New Zealand, Iceland and China, specifically, looking at the minerals that precipitate out of the boiling water and the role micro-organisms play in that precipitation.

He is also involved in researching oil and gas reservoirs in Western Canada's sedimentary basin and has done work in the Cayman Islands looking at the evolution of carbonate rock successions. His research there has helped the Cayman Islands water authority develop their water supply, which is done by converting ocean water into fresh water.

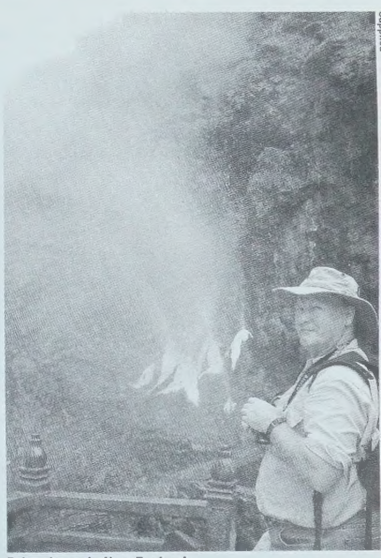
"In order to do that you have to get a supply of water, know what the geology is and how the water is going to flow through rocks to the plants," said Jones. "Essentially, I tell them where to get their water and what depth to obtain it from."

Because Jones' research laboratory is in the field, he says it is easy to bring real-world examples of research to the classroom, particularly his work in the Caymen Islands and exploration and exploitation of oil and gas in Western Canada.

"Instead of talking about things in a very abstract sense, I try to bring in very practical examples based on my own experience working in the field to show students what the application of the research is and why they need to deal with some of these issues," said Jones, who teaches a first-year introductory class, and senior undergraduate and graduate-level courses in carbonate sedimentology.

Jones says he stresses the importance of very basic knowledge, but does try to get students to think for themselves and not just to learn by rote memorization.

"They have to do some of that, but I also want them to think and reason and develop things. I always try to show the practical application of what we're teaching. I try to get across the idea that we're not just teaching for the sake of teaching, but be able to show them that their knowledge does have real applications."



Brian Jones in New Zealand.

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Lily Choi, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Jan. 28 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Choi correctly identified the photo in question as the seal in Alumni Walk, located just north SUB's main entrance. For her efforts, Choi has won the much-sought-after Butterdome butter dish.

Do not despair, as another Butterdome butter dish will be up for grabs this week. To win, simply email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Feb. 18, and you will be entered into the draw.

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1) *"Nearly half of our staff has been to your clinic." - Staff member at the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry*
2) *"You helped me lose 35 pounds and my blood pressure has dropped significantly. My neck and shoulder pain, which I've had for more than 20 years, is also gone." - Senior staff member at the U of A*
3) *"In two months of treatment, Dr. He has helped alleviate pain from sciatica, disc bulges and inoperable spinal cysts." - Senior staff member at the U of A*

Supplied

Augustana Campus was home to the annual Round Dance that kicked off International Week Jan. 29.

Role of modern-day provost a few hundred centuries in the making

University 101

The University of Alberta can be a complicated entity with many moving parts. University 101 exists to assist the campus community in better understanding who does what and how things get done at the U of A.

Michael Brown

The position of provost dates back to medieval times when the provost was, for all intents and purposes, the director of a religious community. While theological communing was left to the bishops, priests and nuns, the provost looked after the details of everyday life.

Fast forward a few centuries, and the position of provost at universities has evolved significantly.

As chief academic officer, the provost leads the team of vice-presidents to ensure that portfolios and goals are aligned toward achievement of the university's vision. Academic leadership and overall institutional planning are the provost's responsibility.

"Until the 1970s, universities tended not to have provosts," says U of A Provost Carl Amrhein. "There was an academic vice-president, who, by virtue of the business, was responsible for the largest of the vice-presidential portfolios."

As Canadian university presidents became more and more externally focused on government and international relations as well as fundraising, this shift in the nature of the role of the president necessitated at the U of A an increased role for the vice-president (academic). In 1998 the title of provost was added to the position. In July 2001 the title was changed to provost and vice-president (academic), reflecting the new emphasis on the role in operational co-ordination.

"University business is the academics, so the provost was added to the vice-president academic," said Amrhein. "It made sense for the provost to be assigned to the vice-president (academic) portfolio because it maintains the alignment of the academic missions core to the institution."

As the role evolved, it became clear that responsibilities needed to be shared. Amrhein says the U of A created a deputy provost position, who is essentially doing the work of the traditional vice-president (academic). "Dru Marshall, our deputy provost, takes care of working with the deans on budgets and appointments. She works with Facilities and Operations on space and works with the government on enrolment," he says.

Amrhein says the provost has several overarching responsibilities, the first of which is to maintain a direct set of relationships with the four constituencies laid out in the Post-Secondary Learning Act: the Students' Union, the Graduate Students' Association, the Non-Academic Staff Association and the Association of Academic Staff.

Secondly, the provost chairs the selection committees for deans and is the direct link with the deans and central university on all academic matters. To help ensure these relationships, the provost's office has a deputy provost and vice-provosts.

"If you imagine the deans as defining a column in an academic matrix, then the rows are defined by the vice-provosts," said Amrhein.

When Amrhein became the provost in 2003, the lines were somewhat blurred between to whom the heads of the U of A's largest operations—such as the registrar's office and libraries—and the various associate vice-presidents reported.

"It was then agreed that the provost's office would appoint vice-provosts and the Office of the Vice-President (Research) would appoint its associate vice-presidents," says Amrhein. "It brought a nice balance to the whole discussion; the deans liked it because the change made it clear who they could go to for direct help."

Amrhein says the provost also has special responsibility for student issues. Strengthening the links to students, enhancing the well-being of students and ensuring that student issues have a high profile in planning and decision making are substantive parts of this role.

Another large area of focus is the provost's role with the committees of both the General Faculties Council and the board of governors. In the case of the GFC committees, someone in the Office of the Provost—either the provost, a vice-provost or deputy provost—chairs the committees. On board committees, the provost, on the instruction of the president, attends as one of the senior people in administration.

"The provost does some of what presidents have done in the past within the institution: chairs the executive planning committee and works with the other vice-presidents and with the ministries on the business affairs of the institution," said Amrhein. "This includes things like the budgets, building priorities, funding decisions, and whether to buy and sell, essentially the business of the university."

Food for thought: What Canada must do to help fight looming food crisis

John Kennelly & Douglas Hedley

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's recent announcement that the world food price index now surpasses the peak level achieved in the food price spike in 2007–08 raises serious concerns about the ability of the world to feed itself over the next several years.

Demand for food is increasing because growing populations and incomes, particularly in Africa and east and south Asia. Meanwhile, staple food stocks are declining in relation to world demand, with small changes in food production causing greater variability in food prices.

Increased volatility in food prices seems inevitable, given the effects of climate change, more frequent devastating floods and droughts, and urbanization and industrialization, which will reduce available arable land and remove water from food production.

In Canada, higher prices for farm products may seem to be a good thing for farmers, but it's important to remember that food production input costs such as energy are also rising regardless of whether farmers are into organic, local or intensive high-input agriculture. Few experts are forecasting sharply lower production costs.

Worldwide pressure on food availability and prices abroad will certainly give rise to strife among nations, particularly in Africa and Asia.

Canada has a unique opportunity to help solve this pending global crisis. Research to increase agricultural productivity is the single most important investment needed to address this looming scenario.

Increased production of agricultural staples for both food and non-food uses will have to come from research into improvements in technology that will generate better yields and more nutritious foods.

Productivity increases must come from higher yields since using more land for agriculture would lead to significant destruction of forests and ecologically fragile areas. In turn, this would generate still more greenhouse gas effects, which drive climate change and reduce agricultural yields in many parts of the world.

Agricultural productivity growth has slowed over the past 20 years in the world and in Canada due to reduced public investments in agriculture and food research. Through our universities and other publicly funded research institutions, Canada can raise agricultural productivity levels to more sustainable levels.

Why should Canada, with a relatively small share of the world's population, invest more heavily in agriculture and food research? Greater research funding not only offers the potential for better food productivity, safety and quality, but also strengthens Canada's ability to produce the next generation of scientists and expertise required by governments, the private sector and universities. Research in universities is the foundation for training highly qualified personnel increasingly needed in the post-industrial economy.

Canada is a major producer and exporter of agriculture and food products, including grains, canola, pork, beef and pulse crops, as well as semi-processed and processed foods. High-quality food exports are a critical part of Canada's agriculture and food system and agriculture is one of the few sectors with a positive trade balance.

We have a demonstrated capacity for developing new crops and increasing the nutritional value of food products. Examples include canola, edible flax, edible soybeans, peas, beans and lentils, and high-quality fruits and vegetables, along with high-quality grains.

Canada needs to be doing research to address current and potential threats to agriculture around the world. If unresolved, these problems will lead to income losses for farmers and increased government costs for income stabilization. Research is a far less costly approach.

Joining forces with universities and scientists in other countries and international organizations is immensely important—not only to protect Canadian production, but also to gain important knowledge from working with scientists around the world.

Canada has the opportunity and the capacity to increase agricultural and food productivity, create highly qualified personnel for our future and improve the nutritional quality of Canadian foods. In the process, we will contribute to the stability of world food supplies and moderate the strife that inevitably stems from food insecurity and hunger.

A version of this opinion piece was published in the Edmonton Journal *on Jan. 28. John Kennelly is the Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Science. Douglas Hedley is the executive director of the Canadian Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine.*

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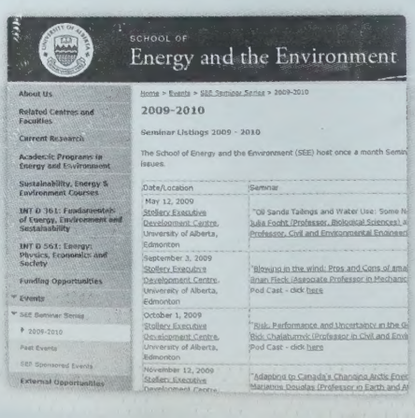

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Education students learning to speak the language of today's kids

Dawn Ford

Building video games can be an important teaching tool to engage students in exploring a given subject area.

Patricia Boechler, professor in educational psychology and co-ordinator of the Faculty of Education's master's of education technology in education specialization, believes educators can harness the growing trend of video gaming as a starting point for exploring new ways of reaching students. Boechler teaches EDIT 486, a course that teaches education students to use game construction as a teaching tool with their own students.

"Our elementary and secondary-level students are engaged at the onset. They walk into the classroom with video games already being a huge part of their lives outside the classroom," says Boechler, who collaborated in designing the video games course with Mike Carbonaro, professor in educational psychology.

"In this course, we look at video games through the lens of educational theory and the idea of constructionism. We understand that students construct their own knowledge through their experiences with the environment, particularly as they build things to share with others," says Boechler, whose research over the past decade has centred on the study of cognition and learning in educational technology. "As educators, our job is to create learning opportunities that really engage students and, at the same time, guide knowledge construction.

"This isn't about taking commercial video games into the classroom so kids can play them more—this is about having them build their own games around a certain relevant topic such as the economic competition related to the control of the North American fur trade in social studies. When they create a video game, they must delve deeply into all aspects of that topic as they construct their game environment," she explains.

Shivon Brennan, a secondary-education student in Boechler's course, constructed a video game using Scratch, a popular programming language used to create interactive stories and animations. In Brennan's game, Little Red Riding Hood has to navigate through a maze while picking apples on her way to grandma's house.

"Creating the Scratch project was one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of my university career. It was extremely daunting to come into a project like this with no previous understanding of programming. The trial-and-error process opened my mind to exploring different ways that things work, an important characteristic to bring into the classroom when I am a teacher," says Brennan.

Patricia Boechler

Chris Thompson, a student in the class, says the project challenged him to hone in on his planning and time-management skills and gave him an appreciation for the benefits of using the popular technologies his own students engage in. "I realize now that there are many forms of educational media which I can use to inspire students to put in an effort above and beyond anything they previously thought possible," he says.

Boechler says she is definitely not suggesting that everyone go out and buy video games to put into their classrooms. "Learning how to approach new technologies is important for pre-service teachers, but rather than the technology itself as the subject, this course is about how we can use technology to explore new ways of enhancing learning through the same technologies kids are engaging with every day," says Boechler.

Faculty's Wall of Excellence a testament to arts teachers

Isha Thompson

A new tribute to the outstanding teaching within the Faculty of Arts is not only meant to showcase the talents of instructors, but also to act as an inspiration for others to aspire to become great teachers.

A teaching wall that celebrates the faculty members who have been recognized with formal teaching awards over the past 25 years was officially unveiled Feb.2, showcasing the names of 273 people.

"I think we are blessed and honoured to have so many great teachers within the faculty," said Dean of Arts Lesley Cormack to approximately 100 guests including many of the former and current teachers being recognized on the wall. "You have mentored our students past and present and I know you will stand as an inspiration to those who are teaching now and who will teach in the future."

The initial proposal for the teaching wall was conceived in 2006 by the Faculty of Arts Committee on Teaching and Learning. Their goal was to raise the level of recognition of the passion of arts teachers and of the faculty's commitment to providing an outstanding learning experience for students.

Karla Del Carpio received a teaching award in 2009 for a Spanish course she has taught at the U of A for four years. She believes motivated teachers will undoubtedly result in motivated students. Del Carpio recalled that receiving her award was a thrill and she is delighted about the new teaching wall.

"Every morning when I walk by here I am going to be able to see my name; it's really motivating. I think it is such a good idea," she said with a proud smile.Lauren and Michael Sky were equally proud, although not for an award that either of them had won. Mother and son were celebrating the achievements of Bill Meloff, who received an award in 1994 for his work as a professor in the Department of Sociology. Meloff died in 1997, but his daughter and grandson felt it was important to celebrate in his honour.

"It means a lot to me because I know teaching meant a lot to him," explained Lauren, who said her father was thrilled about his role in the Faculty of Arts and always had students rushing to register for his classes.

"It's really cool and special that [my] grandfather's name is on the wall and it means a lot that I have a family member that was so important here," added Michael.

The teaching wall will be updated yearly in order to consistently represent the last 25 years of award winners.

Michael Holly

Dean of Arts Lesley Cormack at the teaching wall.

2011-2012 Killam Annual Professorships

Les Fiducies Killam Trusts

Applications are invited for the 2011-2012 Killam Annual Professorships. All regular, continuing, full-time academic faculty members who are not on leave during 2011-2012 are eligible to apply. Deans, Department Chairs and other senior University administrators with personnel responsibilities shall not normally be eligible for Killam Annual Professorships. Associate Deans and Associate Department Chairs are eligible providing they do not have personnel responsibilities. Up to eight Killam Annual Professors will be selected by a subcommittee of the Killam Trusts Committee; no more than two Professorships shall be awarded to staff members in any one faculty in any given year. Each Killam Annual Professor shall be presented with a $3,500 prize and a commemorative plaque. The duties of Killam Annual Professors shall not be changed from those that they regularly perform as academic staff members.

The primary criterion for selection shall be a record of outstanding scholarship and teaching over three or more years as evidenced by any or all of research publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students, and courses taught. The secondary criterion shall be a record of substantial contributions to the community outside the University, above and beyond what is usually expected of a professor, as evidenced by community involvement normally directly linked to the applicant's University responsibilities and activities. However, other forms of community involvement will be considered, especially, but not exclusively, where the applicant's discipline does not readily lend itself to making community contributions, and also where the university's reputation is clearly enhanced by the applicant's contributions.

Awards are tenable for twelve months commencing July 1, 2011. The completed application must be received at the Office of the Vice-President (Research), 1-20 University Hall, by 4:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 18, 2011. The awardees shall be announced by early May, and they will be formally recognized at the Killam Luncheon in the fall of 2011.

Applications and further details are available on the home page of the Vice-President (Research) at http://www.research.ualberta.ca.

Please contact Annette Kujda, administrative officer, Office of the Vice-President (Research) at extension 2-8342 or email **annette.kujda@ualberta.ca** if you have any questions.

U of A joins the rocketry space race

Brian Murphy

The University of Alberta has formally joined a space race of sorts. It's not a race to another planet; it's a race to get students onboard with careers in space science and technology. A delegation from the U of A just returned from Norway with a formal agreement to launch a rocketry program with the University of Oslo called the Canada-Norway Sounding Rocket Program, or CaNoRock.

Over the last year and a half, three groups of U of A students have made the trip to the Andøya Rocket Range in Norway, where the students built and then flew science experiments on super-sonic rockets. Dave Miles, a U of A graduate student in physics, has been to Andøya twice and says that it's an unbelievable experience for people with their eye on space. "Now we have a fully funded three-year program that will see 60 Canadian students build scientific instruments and design missions for sounding rocket launches," he said.

Sounding rockets are commonly used for atmospheric monitoring, space science and as a proving ground for satellite instruments that are set to fly in space. "These rockets are re-purposed military missiles, about two metres in height, and can reach an altitude of nine to 10 kilometres," said Miles.

Norway and Canada are a good fit for a joint rocket training program, says Miles. "We are geographically similar; we've both got interest in the Arctic, and we both need engineers who can design and build homegrown space-satellite programs." The Andøya Rocket Range is on the coast of Norway overlooking the North Sea.

Organizers of the program say sounding rockets provide entry-level access to the high-risk, high-cost world of space satellite missions. "The undergraduate students can send a sounding rocket up for between $20,000 and $30,000 dollars," said Miles, "but you have to prove yourself at that level before a space agency will let you anywhere near a satellite mission that costs tens or hundreds of millions of dollars."

"Canada has the fourth-largest aerospace industry in the world," says U of A professor Ian Mann and Canada Research Chair in space physics. Mann helped create the program and its focus. "CaNoRock aims to attract Canada's best into careers that maintain and expand Canada's place in space."

Besides the U of A, the universities of Calgary and Saskatchewan will put students through the week in Andøya. Funders for the program include the U of A's Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund, which contributed $120,000 over three years, and the Canadian Space Agency, which will contribute $300,000 over three years.

U of A's part in the CaNoRock program was developed by the university's Institute for Space Science Exploration. Miles says ISSET has one foot in engineering and the other in science, and both interests are represented in a new learning venture for U of A undergraduates. "We're putting the curriculum together for an introductory space-science and instrumentation course that we hope to offer next year," he said.

Supplied

The Andøya Rocket Range in Norway.

Last bear out turns off the lights—era of the Main Gym comes to an end

Michael Brown

For 50 years, the University of Alberta volleyball and basketball teams have lived Dorothy's assertion that there's no place like home.

Over that span, the Golden Bears and Pandas court teams have pieced together a remarkable six of the school's 17 national championships on U of A soil, to go with countless Canada West titles and regular season victories under the bright lights of the unremarkably named Main Gym.

With the GO Centre's court on the U of A's South Campus planned for play readiness next year, this weekend marks the final chapter of the Main Gym's legacy of excellence.

"I am going to miss it," said Golden Bears men's volleyball coach Terry Danyluk, whose teams celebrated national championships on the main gym floor in 2002 and 2009. "As an athlete, whether it was playing as a young teenager, playing for the U of A, or at the master's games, and then with coaching and teaching now, for me, the Main Gym has been the cornerstone for a lot of things in the city.

"From community events to international events in many sports, it has produced a lot of great moments and a lot of great memories."

Originally built in 1958, the doors to the Main Gym opened to varsity competition in 1960 and have seen a number of historical events happen on its hardwood floor since then, including the 1968 Canadian Amateur Wrestling Association Canadian championships and Olympic trials, the 1978 Commonwealth Games and 13 CIS national championships.

Michael Davies-Venn

This season marks the end of the line for the university's historic Main Gym. Beginning with the 2011-12 basketball and volleyball season, the GO Centre will be home for the Golden Bears and Pandas.

It is likely that the first major sport competition to be held in the Main Gymnasium was a basketball game played between the Golden Bears basketball team and the Harlem Stars, on Nov. 10, 1960. The Main Gym also hosted the memorial services for Maury Van Vliet Sr. in 2001, after whom the entire physical education and recreation building is named.

For Danyluk, the Main Gym is where he rose to prominence, first as a player guiding the Golden Bears to a national title in 1981, and then as a coach for 30 years, winning five more national titles. Despite his teams' national glory, his favourite memory has a little more international flavour.

"A lot of times the last match at the Can-Am challenge has come against an NCAA team in front of a full house. The first time we had a packed crowd was in 1998 at the Can-Am Challenge when we played Stanford. Both teams were defending national champions and the game went five sets," he said. "More recently, maybe the biggest crowd ever was when we won in 2009, and they brought an extra 1,000 seats in.

"It was Laval and Alberta, two undefeated teams going down to the wire. There was really nothing like winning that championship at home in front of 3,000 people, perhaps the biggest crowd ever."

No team in the country has relished home court more than the Pandas volleyball team, which claimed four of its six consecutive CIS championship titles at the Main Gym in the late 1990s when the team ruled over Canadian university volleyball landscape with an iron fist.

"It is a pretty unique playing environment," said Laurie Eisler, the Pandas head coach for 19 years. "Originally it was a very large gym, so I think teams found it hard because of the space. It is also known as the intimate gym because the crowd is so close to the court, creating an atmosphere that makes for an awesome place to play volleyball. If you have a relatively large crowd, you can feel the energy of the crowd, and when you think of the championship matches where it has been sold out, it felt like the place was vibrating.

"Volleyball players in Canada don't usually get to play in that context; we're not Turkey and we're not Japan, where it is such a huge spectator sport. We don't have professional leagues, so for our athletes to have an experience that feels like Rexall Place during a playoff run was pretty amazing."

Even beyond the successes, Eisler says the Main Gym's biggest legacy is its sense of community.

"It is real community gathering place for volleyball, so when we host a weekend of conference play, it really is the home of Edmonton's volleyball community," she said. "Some of our teams grew up in that gym, and many of their parents played in that gym, and so it has a history that a lot of people can relate to."

Main Gym vitals

- After 40 years of continuous use by the Golden Bears and Pandas, as well as intramural and recreational use and physical education and recreation classes, the Main Gym flooring was replaced in 1998.
- The Main Gym measures 108 feet by 168 feet and has a seating capacity of 2,714.
- 13 Canadian university sport national championships have been held in the Main Gym since it opened in 1958.
- Six of those 13 championships were won by Alberta.
- List of championships held in the Main Gym (Alberta wins denoted by *):

2010-women's volleyball
2009-men's volleyball*
2003-men's volleyball
2002-men's volleyball*
2001-women's basketball
2000-women's basketball
1999-women's volleyball*
1998-women's volleyball*
1997-women's volleyball*
1995-women's volleyball*
1993-men's volleyball
1974-men's volleyball
1967-men's volleyball (first national championship hosted in Main Gym)

The two task forces described below have been formed by the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and the Vice-President (Finance and Administration), respectively. Both task forces are requesting feedback from the community. The two task forces will work together to ensure topics are covered by the appropriate group.

Academic Policy and Process Review (APPR) Task Force
Sponsor: Carl G. Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

The mandate of the APPR Task Force is to facilitate students' learning by ensuring that the University's policies and processes for academic programs do not present unnecessary barriers to student engagement and do not prevent students from having positive and rewarding experiences at the University of Alberta.

The APPR Task Force is chaired by the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and includes members from across the University community.

The task force is in the process of gathering a list of potential topics for discussion and would like to hear from members of the University community about academic rules, regulations, policies and processes that are perceived to be in need of review.

Please forward your comments and suggestions to appr@uhall.ualberta.ca

More information on the APPR task force, including the full membership, can be found at http://www.provost.ualberta.ca/en/CommitteesandTaskForces/APPR.aspx

Administrative Innovation and Process Review (AIPR) Task Force
Sponsor: Phyllis Clark, Vice-President (Finance & Administration)

The mandate of the AIPR Task Force is to conduct reviews of University-wide administrative processes and individual administrative units or processes in order to seek innovative improvements and streamline cumbersome processes.

The AIPR Task Force is co-chaired by Mary Persson, Associate Vice-President (Audit and Analysis) and Sheree Kwong See, Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning), Faculty of Arts and includes members of the University community.

The task force seeks input from members of the University community to gather new innovative ideas and to help identify administrative processes that are overly cumbersome or inefficient. The TF will focus on areas that will a) optimize the operational efficiency of a unit or process, b) enhance customer service, c) present new opportunities for cost containment, and/or d) create opportunities for revenue enhancement.

Please forward your comments and suggestions to admin.ideas@ualberta.ca

More information on the AIPR task force, including the full membership, can be found at: http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/vpfinance/taskforce.cfm

The input of the community is of important to the work of both task forces. All comments will be shared with the task force, but comments will be handled confidentially at the request of the submitter. Thank you for your assistance.
We would benefit from receiving your comments by March 31, 2011.

news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Federal Science, Technology and Science Council taps president for input

President Indira Samarasekera has been appointed to the Science, Technology and Innovation Council, the government's advisory body on science, technology and innovation issues, the federal government announced Feb. 2.

Along with six other appointees, Samarasekera was selected to make recommendations to the government on many sectors of the Canadian economy. Since convening in November 2007, the council has provided science and technology advice to the government on a dozen major topics, said the council's chair Howard Alper. "Our advice has been considered relevant, timely and valuable in shaping the priority science and technology policies and programs of the government," he said.

"These talented Canadians come from the public, private and academic sectors. They have the broad range of experience that is essential to advise the government on science and technology matters of national importance," said Tony Clement, minister of industry. "I am pleased they have agreed to serve on the council and am certain their contributions will advance the government's innovation agenda."

Student fundraiser contributes $25,000 to dentistry

Dentistry and dental hygiene students who hosted the first Dentistry Student's Association Ball Jan. 22 have set the bar at an impressive level, raising $25,500 for a Canadian-based volunteer organization Dentistry for All.

The Dentistry Student's Association put on the ball to leave a legacy behind when they move on from their posts with the association. Money was raised through sponsorship and ticket sales for the event which included a dinner, dance and fashion show.

"We were simply blown away by the amount of support for the event and the organization," said Dave Leoni, a second-year dental student who is on the organizing committee. "Not only did we sell out the seats (about 230 people), but also we raised five times the amount of money that we had originally projected as deeming the event a 'success.'"

The group had originally hoped to raise around $5,000.

Dentistry for All was started by a dentist out of Calgary. The organization provides free dental care to patients, who do not have access to dentists in impoverished countries like Nicaragua, Guatemala and the Philippines.

"Dentistry for all provides them with dental treatment and dental education," said Leoni. "Otherwise these patients are pulling their own teeth."

The hope is that this charity ball will become an annual event.

Arts research goes public

Graduate students are all too familiar with the countless hours that are spent on research. However, only a select few at the U of A have experienced the challenge of creating a streamlined presentation that showcases their work to the public in under seven minutes.

The participants of the "Let's Talk: How to Make Research Go Public," competition held this month signed up for this challenge, and at the end of the night three arts graduate students walked away with cash prizes to help carry out their research goals.

A total of 11 projects were presented in a PechaKucha format, which requires students to explain their research with a background of 20 PowerPoint slides shown for 20 seconds each. The presentation style is a way to force presenters to compile information in a concise manner with a strict timeframe of six minutes and forty seconds.

With this being the first year of the event and a new concept for the Faculty of Arts, organizers were not entirely sure of what to expect. However, the night quickly proved to be a big success.

"I was blown away. I know that our graduate students are good—I didn't know they were this good," said Heather Zwicker, the Faculty of Arts' associate dean of graduate studies, who was one of the lead organizers of the event.

"I feel like I just came away from a three-day conference where you might hear 11 papers, except I did it all in two hours."

Archaeological textiles take researcher to Egypt

When an international team of archaeologists needed a textile scientist to help them identify tiny 2,000 year-old textile pieces at a Roman site in Egypt, they called Jane Batcheller.

Batcheller, a faculty service officer in the Department of Human Ecology, spent three weeks last December at the archaeological site of Karanis, in the Fayum, an agricultural oasis at the edge of the western desert.

Most of the artifacts found were coarse, plainly woven wool or linen pieces, with goat hair being used occasionally. One of the most interesting pieces was a scrap of fabric that had probably been worn as a sock almost 2,000 years ago. Other pieces had the markings of "clavi" bands, which were commonly found as decoration on Roman tunics. The archaeologists also found some knotted netting, which may have been used as a mesh bag for carrying food.

Cyclist puts PhD on hold for gold

Tara Whitten, '07 BSc, winner of a gold and three bronze medals at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in India, takes a break from training for the 2011 Track Cycling World Cup to talk with third-year student and fellow athlete Paula Findlay.

Q: You've had lots of successes in cycling, but this is actually a relatively new sport to you. When did you start competing seriously?

A: I first got on a track bike in 2005, but I was still cross-country skiing competitively, so it wasn't until July of 2007 that I started doing it seriously.

Q: What made you switch?

A: I had some success in skiing, but I wasn't consistently successful on the international team, and I felt like I was still a ways from that point. So I started cycling just for fun, and everything moved really quickly.

Q: What do you like so much about cycling?

A: It has a bit of everything. You need a lot of speed and power and endurance, but you also need to be smart and have tactical sense. And things happen quickly so you have to have fast reactions. It's exciting.

Q: Did you participate in a lot of different sports growing up?

A: I was very active when I was young. My family is also very active. My dad actually competed in mountain biking when I was growing up, and we followed him to races around the province. We did a lot of mountain biking as a family, we went on canoe trips and ski trips, but cross-country skiing was the first thing that I did competitively.

Q: Was there any way in which your education contributed to your sporting career?

A: Oh, I think so. Because I was doing both school and sport I learned how to be very efficient, which I think has helped me as an athlete and in everything that I do.

Thomas Allenan Photography

Tara Whitten

And, on top of that, being a scientist influences the way I think about training. I'm very analytical about my training. I always want to understand why I'm doing something, and I think that's really helped me to define my training and to be very methodical about how I approach it.

Q: You're currently in the middle of a PhD at the U of A. What are you studying?

A: I'm studying neuroscience in an electrophysiology lab in the psychology department with Clayton Dickson. I'm looking at rhythmic electrical activity in a particular area of the brain—the hippocampus—during sleep-like states. But I'm putting it on hold for two years as I prepare for the London Olympics.

Q: You're primarily a track cyclist, but you recently won a gold medal in the road time trial at the Commonwealth Games. Is there a big difference between racing on the track and on the road? Which do you prefer?

A: I prefer the track, but I really enjoy the time trial on the road as well because it's actually really similar to the kind of racing I was used to as a skier. The time trial for women usually lasts 30–45 minutes, which is right in the range of the typical event in cross-country skiing. And it's just you and your bike on the road, which is something I like. But because road racing and track racing are different seasons, I am able to do both.

Q: What are your plans for after London 2012?

A: I have about two years left in my PhD, so I'd really like to go back and finish it.

Q: Would you try to compete in Rio in 2016? Or maybe you'd like to try a different sport?

A: At a certain point there are other things I want to do in my life, but at the same time I love competing and training, so it's hard to say.

Read the full interview in *New Trail*, available online at www.newtrail.ualberta.ca/en.aspx.

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Post-secondary institutions join forces to prepare for disasters

Jamie Hanlon

A new agreement between the University of Alberta and three local post-secondary institutions establishes a contingency plan to help maintain business continuity in the event disaster strikes one of the partner institutions. The agreement, signed by the U of A, Grant MacEwan University, the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology and NorQuest College, means that the institutions could call upon one another in the event of an emergency such as fire, severe weather or flooding. With the safety of the affected individuals the top priority, the agreement also calls for lending or sharing facilities, resources, equipment or computer systems and software, and even making staff available to assist if needed. Specific types of assistance could include making space available in the event of an evacuation, assistance with cleanup following structural damage, or help with the provision of psychological services to individuals who have experienced trauma.

Philip Stack, the U of A's associate vice-president for Risk Management Services, said the agreement is an example of how the institutions are working together to make maximum use of their resources.

"The Alberta government and universities agree that everyone benefits when we are able to share resources, knowledge and best practices," he said. "This agreement forms an important part of our contingency planning that helps ensure we can continue to provide services during a major emergency and return to normal as quickly as possible."

The agreement establishes the legal and logistical details that would have to be resolved prior to assistance being rendered, ensuring a timely response from the partners in the event of an incident. The signatory parties noted that this Campus Alberta collaboration is another example of the strong relationships that exist between the institutions.

The four partners are making the terms of the agreement available to all Alberta institutions that may wish to pursue a similar arrangement in their geographical area.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Feb. 14

The John H. Meier, Jr. Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction Collection. This collection represents many great Canadian authors and the works present a variety of immigration themes. Noon–4:30 p.m. Bruce Peel Special Collections Library.

Until Feb. 14

Valentine's Day Contest. Entry forms are available weekdays 9 a.m.–3 p.m. in the HUB Mall Administration Office, room 209, HUB Mall. Plenty of prizes.

Until Feb. 19

Transcendence: Four Artists, Four Cultures. Featuring the work of internationally-renowned print artists from Poland, Japan, Canada and Belgium. Noon–5 p.m. Gallery A TELUS Centre.

[a]drift : Edith Krause. This exhibition is the final visual presentation for the degree of Master of Fine Arts in Printmaking. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Fine Arts Building Gallery.

The Alcuin Society Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada. The Alcuin Society offers prestigious awards for excellence in Canadian book design and sponsors the only national competition that recognizes and celebrates fine book design in Canada. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Fine Arts Building Gallery.

Until Feb. 28

Are You Here? Finding Home On A Map of the World. Reflecting on themes of leaving, arriving, changing and losing, the English Undergraduate Student Association presents a written-word exhibit that asks, "What does it mean to leave home? Can you find it again?" Galleria Rutherford Library.

Feb. 11

Golden Bears and Panda's Basketball vs University of Calgary Dinos. 6 p.m. Main Gym. For a full schedule of U of A Athletics, go to www.bears.ualberta.ca.

MACH 6 Early Music. Jolaine Kerley and friends, 8 p.m., Arts and Convocation Hall.

Feb. 12

U of A Annual Johann Strauss Ball. A formal viennese ball in support of music scholarships for study in Austria. 5:30 p.m., Aberhart Centre.

Feb. 13

Augustana Human Library. Have you ever wondered what it would be like to go through the loss of a limb in war? Be a female firefighter? Can you imagine life as a transgendered person? These are just a few of the topics that will be available in the upcoming Augustana Human Library: centenary edition. 2–10 p.m. Augustana Library Augustana Library. www.library.ualberta.ca/augustana/infolit/humanlibrary/

Feb. 14 to 18

One World: Humanity Exposed. Photographs from around the world depicting human rights abuses. Galleria Rutherford Library, North and South (Humanities and Social Sciences).

Feb. 14

Valentine's Goodie Give Away. Valentine's Day Goodie Give Away free cookies and punch. Stop by the Mural and Rutherford Lounge ramp in HUB. 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Family Biz & Beyond – The Future of Family Firms & Alberta's NxGen. Are you 18–30? A business student? A nxGen business owner? An employee in family business? Aspiring to become a trusted advisor? Then you are invited to join Dean Mike Percy, and faculty representatives as they give you the inside scoop on how you can gain the skills to put you ahead of the crowd working in, or with, a family business. 5–7 p.m. MBA Lounge, room 4-06 Alberta School of Business.

Feb. 17

NSERC Partnerships Programs Information Sessions. NSERC representatives will be on hand to talk about their Partnerships Programs, including Interaction, Engage, Strategic Project Grants, and Collaborative Research & Development. 9–10:30 a.m. E6-060 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex. This will be followed by one-on-one sessions from 1–4 p.m. Please register at http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=4902.

Group-sourcing Ukrainian Folkore: Involving the Community in Research. Natalie Kononenko has been doing fieldwork in the villages of Ukraine since 1998 and she is one of the few North American scholars to collect songs, stories and other data in rural areas. 3 p.m., 2-06 Pembina Hall.

Educated Palate–CocoJava. The U of A Alumni Association is excited to present several educational opportunities featuring local food and drink. Transcend Coffee and Kerstin's Chocolates will be guiding our taste buds through the nuances and varieties of the cocoa and coffee bean. 6:30 p.m. Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue. $25 per person. www.ualberta.ca/alumni/educatedpalate.

Feb. 19

PSA presents: An Evening Showcase of Cultural Diversity. The Pakistani Student's Association is proud to be hosting "An Evening Showcase of Cultural Diversity." This will be an evening full of music, dancing and other culturally enriched performances to share and celebrate the many different cultures at the U of A. 6–11 p.m. Dinwoodie Lounge, Students' Union Building.

Feb. 21

2011 Chinese New Year Family Day Celebration. Come celebrate the Year of Rabbit with a Lion dance and firecrackers. Noon–4 p.m. Enterprise Square.

Feb. 23

Child Study Centre – Information Evening. You are invited to attend a registration information presentation for the Child Study Centre. The CSC is a laboratory school offering junior kindergarten through to Grade 6. Applications will be accepted at the end of the presentation. If you wish to submit an application form this evening, a copy of your child's birth certificate is required. Also, for the Jr. Kindergarten program, a $50 non-refundable application fee is required. 7–8 p.m.

Feb. 25

Let's Talk NanoScience. An information workshop for high school level students. Get to meet actual researchers involved in Nanotechnology and get a tour of the Nanotechnology Fabrication laboratory as well as enjoy a day on campus engaged in discussion over the impact of Nanoscience on society. 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Tory Lecture Theatres.

The Department of Cell Biology Guest Speaker. Christopher S. Sullivan, professor in the Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, University of Texas at Austin, will be on hand to give a talk entitled, RNAi machinery: a tool for the enemy during viral infection in mammalian cells? 9:30–10:30 a.m. 628 Medical Sciences.

GFC University Teaching Awards Committee Deadlines. Awards include Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Provost's Award for Early Achievement of Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, and Teaching Unit Award 4:30 p.m. B19 Administration.

Dickens comes to Studio Theatre

Supplied

(From L-R) Jamie Cavanagh, Nicola Elbro, Matt Brault, Neil Kuefler and Tiffany Ayalik act out a scene from Studio Theatre's production of the Charles Dickens classic "The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby," which will be playing from Feb. 10 to 19 at the Timms Centre for the Arts (87 Ave. and 112 St.).

laurels

Shirley McClellan, former deputy premier and Distinguished Scholar in Residence for the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences and the U of A's School of Business, has been appointed chancellor of the University of Lethbridge. Her political experience as former MLA for Drumheller-Stettler and her rural roots will be well served the university's next chancellor, says that school's president.

Donna Goodwin, associate professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, has been declared a Fellow of the International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity. This appointment is the highest professional and scientific recognition available for adapted physical activity researchers, recognizing outstanding accomplishments in scholarship and service by IFAPA members.

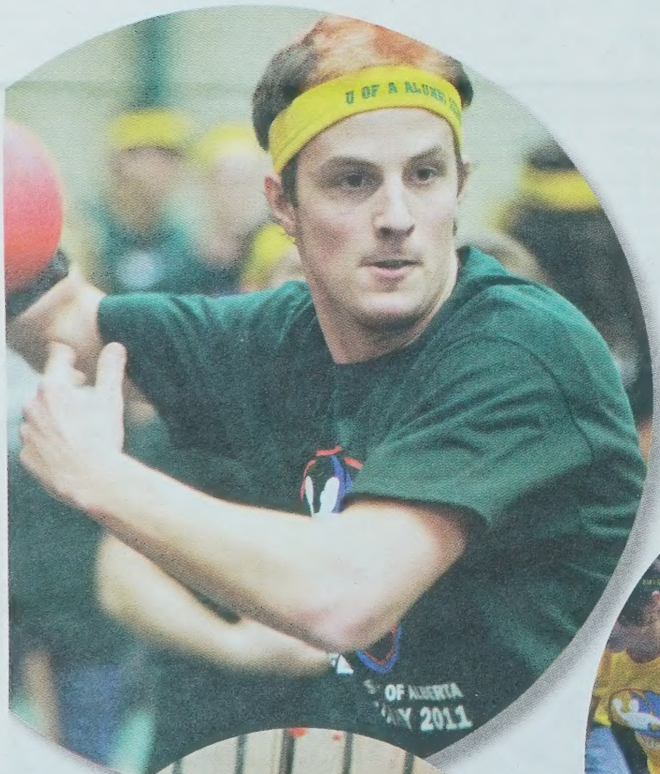
Roy Suddaby has been appointed the editor of the "Academy of Management Review," the world's premier journal in management. The journal has the highest citation impact rating among all of the research journals in the "Financial Times'" list of elite journals.

Florence Glanfield, associate professor and associate chair, secondary education; Dwayne Donald, assistant professor, secondary education; and Gladys Sterenberg, assistant professor, Elementary Education, have won the ATA Educational Research Award for 2009–2010.

It's not dodge ball if it's not U of A dodge ball

The University of Alberta has reclaimed its title as home of the world's largest dodge ball game.

In front of official witnesses and a representative from Guinness World Records, 2,012 U of A staff, students and alumni piled into the Butterdome Feb. 4, breaking the current record. The U of A oringally set the record with 1,198 players, which was subsequently broken seven months later by 1,745 players at University of California, Irvine.



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108 BARD
5

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

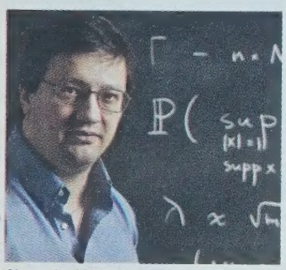
Pages 2
By Extension
Faculty of Extension welcomes First Nations child advocate

Page 4
University 101
The senate

Page 7
Going out on top
Wirth Institute director retiring

Volume 48 Issue 12 | February 25, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Steacie Fellowship will fund pure math research



Alexander Litvak

Brian Murphy

A University of Alberta mathematician has returned from Ottawa with a $250,000 grant for his work developing new math theories.

Alexander Litvak received an E.R.W. Steacie Fellowship, one of only six given nationwide by NSERC to outstanding researchers 40 and younger. The grant will support Litvak's research for two years and gives his department funding for a teaching replacement.

"The benefits of pure math research are not immediate," he says, although this type of research is "an investment in the future and in as yet unknown applications for our theoretical work."

Litvak says that much of the technology that we take for granted today, such as the computer and digital communication devices like cell phones and the GPS, are the result of research in pure mathematics. "Throughout history the pursuit of abstract theories in mathematics has pushed sciences forward, sciences like astronomy, physics and engineering," said Litvak.

This is the 10th Steacie Fellowship awarded to the U of A in the last decade. "The award also underscores the importance and recognition for basic research done at this university," said President Indira Samarasekera.

Litvak likens the speculative nature of his mathematical research to circumstances that led Scottish physicist and mathematician James Clark Maxwell to develop the theory of electromagnetism in the 19th century.

"Maxwell could have spent his time developing a better candle. But he experimented with electricity. No one knew if it would pay off, but it did and now we have electric lights."

Shoot and win

Supplied

At the Feb. 19 Golden Bears basketball game, the final game played at the University of Alberta's Main Gym, Colin Hoehne walked away with his tuition for a semester as part of the Alumni Association's Shoot To Win contest.

President applauds university for strength over past year

Ileiren Poon

The quality of education and research offered at the University of Alberta has not only weathered the tumult of the past year, but also has grown and improved.

Those results are due to the efforts of the university's community, said President Indira Samarasekera, when she presented the first general address of her second term on Feb. 15 at the Myer Horowitz Theatre in the Students' Union Building.

Indira Samarasekera

"The kind of reach, impact and influence we have on the national and international post-secondary stage is not easily achieved or maintained," she said. "It is the product of tremendous commitment, hard work and ingenuity on the part of the faculty, staff and students of the U of A. That dedication—your dedication—has been especially critical this past year."

Efforts made in every unit, department and faculty have prevented some of the worst-case scenarios that were presented 18 months ago, said Samarasekera.

"Major decisions, such as the taking of furlough days, were instrumental—indeed the furlough days saved hundreds of jobs," she said. "I also think of the myriad smaller efficiencies that have been found and have—in total—meant that we continue to fulfil the university's core teaching and research mission to very high standards."

As the university progresses, it's important to remain focused, Samarasekera told the audience.

"As we move forward, we continue to set goals and objectives that underscore our belief that, as a research-intensive university, the U of A should offer undergraduate students a qualitatively different experience than that of Alberta's smaller universities," she said. "To that end, our focus is on increasing undergraduate participation in research projects and finding innovative methods for bringing current research into the classroom."

> "The kind of reach, impact and influence we have on the national and international post-secondary stage is the product of tremendous commitment, hard work and ingenuity on the part of the faculty, staff and students of the U of A. That dedication—your dedication—has been especially critical this past year."
>
> Indira Samarasekera

The university continues to pursue research questions that matter to the wider society, and is continually improving the administrative systems that facilitate teaching, learning and discovery, she said.

"I am sometimes asked if we should still aspire to be in the company of the world's top public universities in light of our current financial realities. I believe that we are and that we should be," she said. "The U of A has—as do so many of our students—tremendous, as yet unrealized, potential. As teachers and mentors, we encourage our students to attempt what they don't believe they can do—and we urge them to embrace opportunities that push them through self-perceived limits.

"As president of the U of A, I can do no less with this institution when I see such potential in this university's intellectual capacity for leadership."

Feedback requested

President Samarasekera invites non-academic staff to join her from noon–1 p.m. March 4 in 3-15 University Hall for lunch and a roundtable discussion regarding the institution and its direction as it moves forward. This is an open dialogue and your active participation is appreciated. Space is very limited and pre-registration is required.

RSVP at www.president.ualberta.ca/eventrsvp.cfm. Enter code: 1098

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

The University of Alberta maintains a database of all alumni. This database is used to send you news about the U of A, including folio and *New Trail*, invitations to special events and requests for support. On Sept. 1, 1999, post-secondary institutions were required to comply with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation of the province of Alberta. In accordance with this legislation, please respond to one of the following options:

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Extension welcomes First Nations' children's advocate

Bev Betkowski

A renowned advocate for First Nations children's rights and a leading First Nations organization have partnered with the University of Alberta to uplift the rights and potential of Aboriginal children and families, strengthening the university's commitment to engage with Aboriginal communities.

Cindy Blackstock

A dynamic partnership between the Faculty of Extension and the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada begins this month as the executive director of the society, Cindy Blackstock, joins the Faculty of Extension.

The U of A's collaboration with Blackstock and the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada—a groundbreaking First Nations human-rights organization leading the way in Aboriginal children's rights—will result in meaningful research, discovery and action for children said Katy Campbell, dean of the Faculty of Extension.

"I am especially excited about the two-way community-based learning and engagement opportunities for the university community and the communities involved with the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada," Campbell said. "University-community engagement anchors our faculty's mission and mandate through *Dare to Discover*."

Blackstock, who holds a bachelor of arts degree in psychology, a master's degree in management and a PhD in social work, will be teaching graduate students at the U of A, sharing her advocacy for the rights of indigenous children in Canada and around the globe. A member of the Gitksan Nation in British Columbia, Blackstock has worked in the field of child and family services for more than 20 years and founded two successful First Nations non-profit organizations.

The author of more than 50 publications, her key interests include exploring and addressing the causes of disadvantage for Aboriginal children, by promoting equitable and culturally based interventions.

"I believe we can have a Canada where First Nations children can grow up proud of who they are, with the same opportunity as other Canadian children," Blackstock said. "I'm hoping to foster meaningful partnerships between First Nations and the University of Alberta that promote the human and cultural rights of First Nations children and families."

Through Blackstock and the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada, students will explore the issues facing Aboriginal children and families and learn about the workings of effective systemic advocacy and policy. The university will also support and make available to students the society's *First Peoples Child & Family Review*, a peer-reviewed journal dedicated to promoting interdisciplinary research, practice and policy focused on Aboriginal perspectives, while respecting indigenous cultural property rights.

The partnership between Blackstock, the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society and the U of A strengthens the faculty's ongoing commitment to working with Aboriginal and other external communities to promote learning and beneficial research, working hand-in-hand with those communities, Campbell said.

"These communities bring important world views and knowledge that must be respected and encouraged in academia, and universities also have a responsibility to work with Aboriginal communities in ways that uplift their aspirations."

Partnering with Blackstock and the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada "is a significant addition to Aboriginal initiatives that already exist within our faculty and at the university," Campbell noted.

> "I believe we can have a Canada where First Nations children can grow up proud of who they are, with the same opportunity as other Canadian children."
>
> Cindy Blackstock

Blackstock, in partnership with indigenous peoples around the globe, has supported the development of United Nations instruments on indigenous child rights. This provides an opportunity for U of A scholars and students across campus to explore the connections between the human and indigenous rights of Aboriginal peoples in Canada to the experience of those in other parts of the world, Campbell added.

"We are excited about Cindy's passion and her ability to bring people along in a transformative way that creates positive change for children and their families."

Masliyah honoured by the National Academy of Engineering

Kathleen Cameron

Distinguished university professor emeritus Jacob Masliyah has been elected as a foreign associate to the American National Academy of Engineering. Academy membership honours those who have made outstanding contributions to engineering research, practice or education, and is among the highest professional distinctions accorded to an engineer.

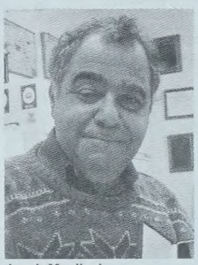
"It is a pleasure to receive this honour from the U.S.," says Masliyah. "Most of my recognition has been within Canada, and now I'm getting international recognition—that is very hard to achieve while working in oilsands research."

Masliyah has been elected to the Earth Resources Engineering section of the academy, based on his contributions to science and technology in oilsands research. This section involves engineering applied to the discovery, development and environmentally responsible production of subsurface earth resources.

"My expertise in oilsands will be a good milieu to 'educate' my American colleagues about the status of oilsands, and where we stand in terms of carbon dioxide emissions, water usage and tailings ponds," he says.

"Election to the American National Academy of Engineering, especially as a foreign associate, is one of the highest honours an engineer can receive," said President Samarasekera. "Given his research accomplishments and the impact he has had over his remarkable career, Jacob is most deserving of this recognition. My congratulations to him."

Masliyah is one of only 13 Canadians accorded the honour since the NAE was founded in 1964. Two other U of A professors are included in this list: George Govier, inducted in 1979, who served as professor and chair of the chemical and petroleum engineering department, and as dean of engineering; and Norbert Morgenstern, inducted in 1992, a distinguished university professor emeritus in civil and environmental engineering.


Jacob Masliyah

Masliyah has achieved great success during his 34 years at the U of A. His long list of honours includes the Order of Canada, the ASTech Award for Outstanding Leadership in Alberta Technology and the R.S. Jane Memorial Award. He was also named a fellow to the Canadian Academy of Engineers and the Royal Society of Canada and served as the NSERC Industrial Research Chair in Oil Sands Engineering and as a Canada Senior Research Chair.

Masliyah does not take sole credit for his achievements: "We have a great department chair and we have a great dean. Everything is in place here for you to succeed. The sky is the limit as long as you can perform. Our leaders are always there to help, and we are very fortunate for that.

"Looking back on my career, if I look at the overall success that we have had, it was to have the industry recognize that only through the application of science can we resolve the challenges that we have," he says. "That idea has permeated the industry, and I think our work at the U of A has helped a lot with that."

Researchers discover how a virus cheats death

Raquel Maurier

A team of researchers in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta has taken an important step forward in the study of virology by discovering how a common virus cheats death by allowing the viral disease to spread throughout the body.

Now the team wants to see if similar viruses work the same way. Their findings could have major implications for improving the health of millions and may prevent deaths, since this discovery could arm medical scientists with the ability to shut down many viruses at an earlier stage.

Viruses invade host cells and replicate inside them. One of the body's immune responses is to trigger cells to "commit suicide" if they are infected or sick. However, Tom Hobman and his fellow researchers, Carolina Ilkow and Ing Swie Goping, found out how the rubella virus, responsible for German measles, blocks cell death, thereby allowing the virus to spread. Rubella virus, a type of RNA virus, is responsible for more birth defects worldwide than any other infectious agent. These viruses cause the vast majority of viral diseases in humans, including AIDS, influenza, hepatitis C, West Nile disease and Dengue fever.

Hobman's team suspected that RNA viruses block the pathways in cells that lead to cell suicide. This was the opposite of what many scientists would have expected. The U of A research team found that when cells are infected with rubella virus, cell suicide is delayed or blocked. They also discovered that a protein, which is generally thought to function only as a building block, actually plays a key role in stopping the process that triggers cell death. This so-called "capsid" protein in the virus acts like a sponge and soaks up a protein in the cell known as Bax, which is crucial in the process triggering the cell to commit suicide.

"This discovery was surprising but gratifying at the same time," says Hobman. "Previously, no one had given any thought to any potential function of this capsid protein."

Hobman's team then decided to conduct some reverse genetic experiments and mutated the capsid protein. This impaired the ability of the virus to replicate itself, because cells committed suicide much earlier in the infection process and more often.

The team's findings have been published in the journal *PLoS Pathogens*.

Hobman and his colleagues are now studying the West Nile and Dengue fever viruses to see if those viruses prevent cell suicide in a similar fashion. He hopes the team's discovery will one day lead to viral infections being limited and shut down at an earlier stage.

Hobman is an authority on host-virus interactions in cells infected with rubella and West Nile viruses. He wrote the chapter on rubella in a widely used textbook on viruses.

Gene discovery could lead to cancer therapies

Quinn Phillips

One of the most important genes in the human genome is called p53 and its function is to suppress tumours, says Roger Leng, a researcher in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology. Leng has discovered the mechanism by which p53 is inactivated in cancerous cells, allowing tumours to grow.

"Successful completion of the proposed experiments could lead to novel anti-cancer therapies that could potentially improve the prognosis for cancer patients and reduce the public-health burden from cancer," said Leng.

It has long been known by scientists that another protein, MDM2, lowers p53 in the body but in cancerous cells p53 is inactivated in more than 50 per cent of all human tumours. MDM2 does not have the ability to functionally silence the tumour-suppressing protein on its own, leaving scientists wondering what molecule in the body is helping MDM2 to nearly eliminate p53 in cancerous cells.

Leng's lab has answered that question and the culprit is called UBE4B. Leng made the discovery because he found that UBE4B binds with both p53 and MDM2. From there his lab was able to discover the relationship between the proteins.

Paired with MDM2, also known as HDM2 in humans, the two proteins completely degrade p53 in a laboratory model. This is a process known as poly-ubiquitination, which means a specific protein completely disappears in a cell.

They also did experiments on several cancerous human brain tissues and found the same results.

"They have the same function," said the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research Scholar and Canadian Institutes of Health Research-funded scientist. "The idea now is you can target UBE4B, and MDM2 won't function."

Dinosaurs may have flourished near the south pole

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta researchers have more evidence from their recent trip to Antarctica that dinosaurs didn't just survive in polar regions; they may have actually flourished.

Paleontologist Philip Currie and research associate Eva Koppelus were part of a six-week mission to Antarctica to extract the fossil of the *Cryolophosarus*, a dinosaur first spotted by an American expedition 20 years ago. The fossilized remains of the meat-eating dinosaur were found on Antarctica's Mount Kirkpatrick in 1991 and Currie says they didn't have to look far from there to find new treasures.

"In an area about half the size of a football field we found partial skeletons representing [what could be] as many as three more species of dinosaur," said Currie. "And we found teeth of small meat eaters, representing at least one more species, mixed in with remains of the larger *Cryolophosarus*."

Currie says that 60 million years ago, when *Cryolophosarus* was alive, the landmass of Antarctica was somewhere between its present position and the latitude of present-day Australia. "It wasn't a frozen, barren land like today, but it was still within the south polar region," said Currie. "Because we found so many fossils of plant eaters and meat eaters in such a small area, it shows a diversity of dinosaur species could adapt to both temperate and polar climates."

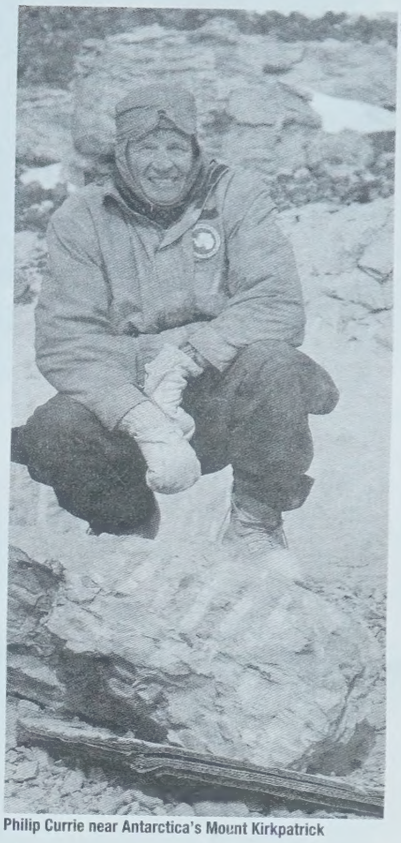
The fossils are still aboard a ship bound for North America, but researchers will be looking at how the Antarctic dinosaurs dealt with the winters at high latitudes, because even though there were no ice caps at that time, the winters would have been difficult.

Currie says past research has shown that, for example, the eyesight of some dinosaurs, particularly predators, evolved to cope with long, dark winters by developing larger eyes and optic lobes in the brain for better night vision. Scientists are also looking at other evolutionary ways dinosaurs could have evolved to survive the harsh polar climate, including seasonal migration and hibernation.

"Right now we don't have the evidence for hibernation," said Currie. "We don't normally think of large animals sleeping through winter. But bears are big and they hibernate, so it's worth looking at that [scenario] for polar-region dinosaurs."

Expedition organizer William Hammer from Augustana College in Illinois will probably distribute some of the fossils to different locations, including the U of A, which will allow Currie to get a good look at the bones.

"*Cryolophosarus* was about eight metres in length and [this fossil] is the first and only one ever found," said Currie. "It lived well before dinosaurs such as Albertosaurus did, and it can tell us a lot about the development and evolution of carnivorous dinosaurs."



Philip Currie near Antarctica's Mount Kirkpatrick

History professor takes U of A's highest research honour

John-Paul Himka

Michael Davies-Venn

teaching & learning, learning & teaching

John-Paul Himka is animated as he talks about the importance of bringing research in the field into the classroom. The professor in the Department of History and Classics says the reasons are plenty but he is most passionate about the ones that benefit his students.

"I find that when you're working on something, trying to figure out answers by yourself, students can see when the light goes on in your eyes, when the dots connect. Nothing is as good for teaching as having students genuinely see you figure something out before their eyes," he said.

While researching his latest book looking into iconography of the Eastern church, Himka was holding one of his seminars outlining his research topic, complete with religious icons.

"A young man—he's now a professor—said to me, 'why is everybody in Hell naked in these icons, except for the tavern maid. Why is the tavern maid clothed?'

"That question tortured me for a very long time," Himka said. "I remember driving through many long roads in Romania thinking, 'why is the tavern maid clothed?' (The maid was copied directly from a Gothic fresco.) And it was something I only solved just as I was writing the book. But I did not feel I understood the book until I figured out his question. That student's question proved to be a key element in identifying the local Gothic origins of some elements in these last judgment icons."

He adds, "What's the point of having a professor teach you if they can't bring things to you that they know that hardly anybody else knows?"

In recognition of this passion for inspiring his students, Himka was awarded the J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research in 2010. The purpose of the award is to recognize and honour faculty members who research contributions are significant, and who sets a standard for excellence for other University of Alberta faculty and students. Himka's body of work, as a professor and a researcher, fits both those criteria well.

Himka measures the time he has been at the U of A in decades. For example, he says for a couple of them, much of his work was concerned with the genealogical history of Western Ukraine. His research also includes a social history of Eastern Europe, the Holocaust, the history of the world in the last 10 years and the iconography of the Eastern church.

Himka's most recent book, *Last Judgment Iconography in the Carpathians,* is also his favourite. It's also one that saw Himka criss-cross Europe for more than 10 years, searching for and photographing religious icons.

"It's by far the most original book I've ever written," says Himka. "It takes about 100 images, which were produced in a small region, and compares them with images in neighbouring regions over the centuries. Just by doing so, it tells stories about the people who created the images. So instead of being textually based, like most history books, is shows a history based largely on images and what images tell us and what they imply. It is a pretty innovative book."

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Doris Corrigan, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Feb. 11 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Corrigan correctly identified the photo in question as the copper chimney above the gas- supplied fireplace flame on the main floor of the Student's Union Building.

For her efforts, Corrigan has won the much-sought-after Butterdome butter dish.

Because we at folio love butter and Butterdomes, another Butterdome butter dish will be up for grabs this week. To win, simply email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, March 4, and you will be entered into the draw.

Child Study Centre

University of Alberta ~ Faculty of Education

Junior Kindergarten (Education S. Bldg)

Now accepting registrations for 2011/2012.

- 2011/2012 pre-school program for children between the ages of 3.5 and 5 (age of 4 by February 28, 2012).
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For more information on registration for Jr. Kindergarten, visit our website, email, or call 780.492.7341.

Junior Kindergarten Open House

March 15, 2011
6:30 to 8:00 p.m., Room B03
Education South Building
University of Alberta

Kindergarten – Grade 6 Open House

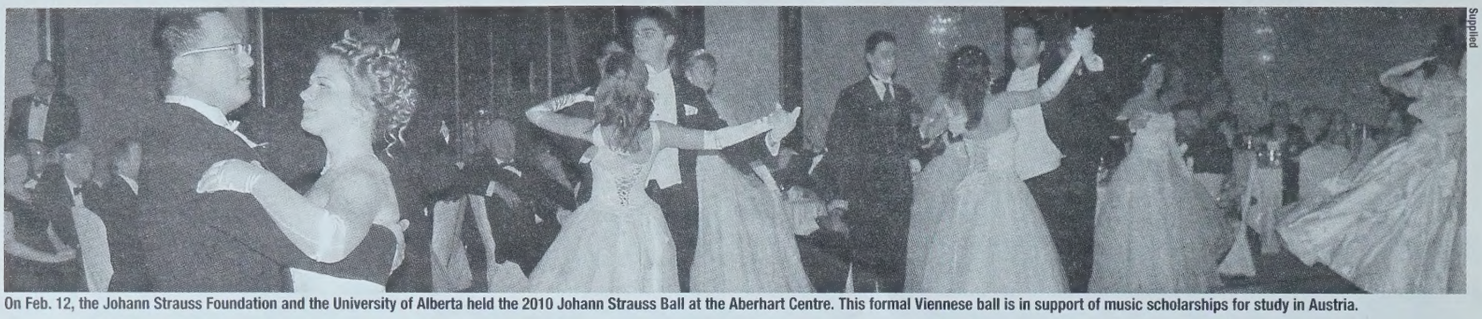
March 17, 2011
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Garneau School

Kindergarten to Grade 6 (Garneau School)

Kindergarten to Grade 6 registration for 2011/2012 begins **March 1, 2011**.

For more information on Kindergarten to Grade 6, visit our website, email, or call Garneau at 780.433.1390.

www.childstudycentre.ualberta.ca
childstudycentre@ualberta.ca



On Feb. 12, the Johann Strauss Foundation and the University of Alberta held the 2010 Johann Strauss Ball at the Aberhart Centre. This formal Viennese ball is in support of music scholarships for study in Austria.

The U of A senate: the university's portal to the community

The University of Alberta can be a complicated entity with many moving parts. University 101 exists to assist the campus community in better understanding who does what and how things get done at the U of A.

Michael Brown

The first Universities Act in 1907 charged the University of Alberta Senate with determining both "the educational policy and the financial management of the new university."

A tall order to begin with; however, a century of change has altered that original overarching mandate.

Starting in 1910, a new act created the university's board of governors, shifting the senate's full governing powers to the board, and changing senate's composition, powers and functions to include mostly academic matters.

Another major shift began on May 12, 1941, when the full senate voted against its Honorary Degrees Committee's recommendation to award an honorary degree to Premier William Aberhart. The fallout from this decision helped write the 1942 Universities Act, which shifted the senate's remaining academic purview to the newly created General Faculties Council.

Linda Hughes

"The role of the senate, over time, has evolved to be more a reflection of community interests in the university," said Linda Hughes, U of A chancellor and chair of the senate.

Today, the Post-Secondary Learning Act outlines the duties of the senate, including "to inquire into any matter that might benefit the university and enhance its position in the community."

Hughes explains the modern-day senate is an advisory body of more than 60 community volunteers and university representatives, which meets four times each year, to provide a bridge between the university and the communities it serves. It also provides a forum in which issues about post-secondary education may be discussed and debated.

"Senate members strive to communicate the needs and views of Albertans to the university and the Alberta government, and to interpret to the public the many different facets of the university," said Hughes. "To accomplish this, ad hoc committees or working groups may be set up to consider specific issues or undertake particular projects."

Hughes says the senate may require a report from any part of the university, and it may receive and consider submissions from any member of the public. The senate also retains the power to confer honorary degrees.

"The chancellor, the ceremonial head of the university, together with the office of the senate and the office of the registrar, is responsible for convocation—the ceremony itself and the conferral of degrees," said Hughes.

Although the past century has brought a lot of change to the role of the senate, its essence remains—to serve the best interests of the university, or as Hughes' senate mandate simply states, to "inquire, promote and connect."

"The mandate of the senate is to bring community issues to the university, and university issues to the community, and senators promote the values of both the university and post-secondary education," said Hughes.

University 101

Senate make up

The senate includes 30 elected members of the public, who represent affiliated colleges or institutions, geographical areas and groups, and organizations with an interest in the university. The senate also includes:

- Nine members of the public, appointed by the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology;
- Two members of the non-academic staff, appointed by AET;
- Two appointees from the board of governors;
- Three appointees from General Faculties Council;
- Two appointees from Deans' Council;
- Two appointees from the Alumni Association;
- Four students appointed by the Students' Union and one student appointed by the Graduate Students' Association;
- The chancellor, the president, the provost and vice-president (academic), the dean of extension, the dean of students and the president and vice-president of the Alumni Association are senate members ex officio.

Current activities and initiatives of the senate

- Nominations for honorary degree recipients: nominations are welcome year round for the university's highest honour.
- Applications to senate: applications for elected volunteer positions on Senate are due on March 1.
- U School: a program that offers elementary and junior high-students from the inner city and other communities with socio-economic challenges a full week on campus to explore life and learning at the University of Alberta.
- Community Conversations with the Chancellor: a series of informal discussions on post-secondary education with leaders in communities across Alberta.
- Senate committees and working groups: focus on areas such as student recruitment and retention, Aboriginal issues and U of A contributions to learning, discovery and citizenship.

Festival of Teaching continues to engage the open door

Colleen Skidmore, vice-provost (academic)

Co-chair Anne Naeth and I cordially invite you to participate in this year's Festival of Teaching from March 7-10. This year's festival contains some very important changes. We've expanded from one to four days and we've opened up the celebration beyond North Campus to Campus Saint-Jean and a special day-long event at Augustana Campus.

We've also incorporated a keynote address to kick off the third annual festival. Maria Klawe, a distinguished alumna, will return to campus where her mother was a professor to speak on "Teaching trials and triumphs." Klawe, who is president of California's Harvey Mudd College, will give her address at 5 p.m. on the subject the first day of the festival at the Telus Centre.

Perhaps the most significant change, and the one we hope many of you will take part in, is the "Festival of Classes," an opportunity for festival participants to observe great teaching in action. We wanted this year's festival to be active—one that is not just about teaching, but one where actual teaching is taking place.

More than 60 talented and passionate professors are opening their classrooms to their fellow instructors to share what they and their students are doing. Their generous invitation to be part of this new festival component is a testament to their dedication and commitment to teaching. We hope you will take away ideas, share thoughts and engage in the discussion of teaching and teaching styles that you have access to as part of the festival.

The closing day of the festival will see the return of the banner presentations, a staple of our previous successful festivals. There will also be a TED-esque event entitled "Festival Talks." Five short presentations centring on the subject of "Where Talent Meets Passion" will be moderated by the Hon. James Edwards, former U of A chancellor. These events will also be held at the Telus Centre.

Registration to observe selected classes across campuses, including Augustana and CSJ, is now open. For those interested in traveling to attend Augustana Campus' events, transportation will be provided to allow Edmonton-based professors to attend classes offered by their Camrose colleagues. Dean Roger Epp will host a panel discussion at the conclusion of the day's events.

We are proud to be part of an event as ambitious and important as this on campus. We hope you will join us and share our pride.

For more information please visit www.provost.ualberta.ca/FestivalofTeaching2011/FestivalClasses.aspx or contact karen.unger@ualberta.ca.

Free osteoporosis testing for faculty and staff

Sandra Pysklywyc

Students in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences have a busy week ahead. In addition to their classes and assignments, students are gearing up for Pharmacist Awareness Week, March 6–10.

Led by the Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association, or APSA, a number of community and faculty specific events are planned over the course of that week.

The students will be putting their education into practice to offer, along with local pharmacists, free bone scans to any staff members of the University of Alberta. The bone-density clinic will take place on March 9, from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. in the front foyer of the Dentistry/Pharmacy building. Students will measure bone density, and based on the results, offer recommendations on osteoporosis risk and on ways to improve the risk through healthy living.

The students are also offering a blood-pressure screening clinic at Southgate Shopping Centre on March 7 from 1–5 p.m. Pharmacy students, along with a practicing pharmacist/faculty member and a physician, will be in the Centre Court offering free blood-pressure measurements. The students will measure blood pressure and discuss ways for improvement, as well as how to decrease cardiovascular risk through healthy eating and living. Students will also offer current recommendations on salt intake, physical activity and smoking cessation, as well as answer questions people have about their medications.

For more information on Pharmacist Awareness Week events, please visit APSA's website www.pharmacy.ualberta.ca/apsa/

surf city

If you're not up to braving sub-zero temperatures, use the time to take a walk through the world's best art galleries with the Art Project. (www.googleartproject.com) A collaboration with some of the world's most acclaimed art museums enables viewers to discover more than 1,000 artworks online, from museums like the Tate Modern in London to the State Hermitage in St. Petersburg. Explore museums with Street View technology: virtually move around the museum's galleries, selecting works of art that interest you. Navigate though floor plans and learn more about the museum as you explore, using the viewer to zoom into featured paintings. Information panels allow visitors to read more about an artwork, find more works by that artist and watch related YouTube videos.

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Captain **MICHAEL GODARD**

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Canada

staff spotlight

A career spent rising to the occasion leads to award

Michael Brown

When Don Hickey took over as vice-president (facilities and operations) early in 2003, he immediately went to work establishing a new culture and value system within his portfolio.

One of the first people he brought aboard to help instill the values that spoke of building trust, client-service focus, communications and change management was long-time university employee Mary Paul.

Eight years later, Facilities and Operations is a model portfolio and Paul has recently been honoured with a University of Alberta's annual administrative and professional officers award.

"Mary helped her vice-president steer through a delicate restructuring of the Facilities and Operations portfolio," wrote one of the people who nominated her for the award. "The changes involved profound alterations to several units. Mary mediated and managed the personalities and eccentricities so well that the portfolio was able to move forward with a renewed focus.

"She is dedicated to the university, to her supervisor and to the people she manages and serves. Not only does she bring the professionalism and knowledge needed for her demanding position, but also an attitude of calm, respect and care."

In her 21 years on campus, Paul has worked with staff, students and faculty at all levels of the organization, starting in 1990 as program manager in the Faculty of Extension, where she created a Residential Interiors Certificate program that is still successful. However, she says her career before the university was simply a build up for her career at the U of A.

"When I look back at the different places I've worked in the corporate sector, I knew I wanted to work at the university in some capacity where there was an entrepreneurial way of thinking about the business of supporting a large, diverse institution," said Paul. "My experience on this campus has been varied and challenging and I would not have it any other way."

Paul's role today as a senior administrative officer involves leadership in administrative matters such as policy development and items moving through administrative and governing committees, and oversight of the office.

"The position acts as a resource to the university by providing administrative management and issues-management support to senior administration within the portfolio, between portfolios and institutionally," said Paul. "While the role gives me many insights into the inner workings of the institution, which is something I find essential in this role, I particularly enjoy the complexity and diversity of facilities and operations. I work alongside talented people who make coming to work every day a pleasure."

Some of Paul's initiatives include initial development of, and communications for, Enterprise Square, representing and co-ordinating the university's involvement in the Francophone Summer Games, development of unit business plans and acting as a central figure in resolving personnel disputes.

No matter what her role is, her colleagues speak of an undying loyalty to the university and to the people she works beside. In return, Paul says she has found the university to be an ideal employer.

"Staff has access to many formal and informal training and work experiences, which deepen our knowledge and broaden our understanding," said Paul. "We are surrounded by bright minds, exciting research and many opportunities to make a difference. We can be proud as employees to work at the university. For me, it's always been about the people and making the organization the best that it can be."

Michael Holly

Mary Paul

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
FACULTY OF ARTS

Call for Research Proposals

Research and Education on Impaired Driving

The Department of Sociology invites proposals to carry out research on impaired driving (e.g. alcohol, prescription drugs, illegal drugs, cell phones, etc.).

Accrued interest from an endowment established by ***Research and Education on Impaired Driving (REID)*** will fund the successful proposal(s). The maximum amount available in this competition is **$12,000**, which may be used to fund one research project or be divided between two (or more) smaller projects. This competition is open to any university member (including faculty, contract instructors, graduate and undergraduate students) conducting research on impaired driving and related social policy problems. It will be adjudicated by a panel of researchers led by the Chair of the Department of Sociology.

Applicants should submit a proposal (maximum five pages, including budget) and current CV to:

Dr. Harvey Krahn, Chair
Department of Sociology
University of Alberta
5-21 HM Tory Building
Edmonton, AB T6G 2H4

The competition closes **March 31, 2011**. If you have any questions, please contact Curtis Champagne, Assistant Chair, at 780-492-0466.

U of A stuttering institute expands to Calgary

Laurie Wang

Eight-year-old Tyler MacDonald can relate to Colin Firth's character of King George from the movie *The King's Speech*. Just last year, the boy lacked confidence and was too frightened to put up his hand in class because of his stutter.

"He didn't want to be in social settings. He didn't like going to school or hockey," says Terry MacDonald, Tyler's father.

But the University of Alberta's Institute for Stuttering Treatment and Research has expanded to Calgary to help people just like Tyler. After ISTAR's speech-therapy treatment, Tyler is now a confident tyke who loves playing hockey. He likes school now too.

"I'm also better friends with my dad," adds Tyler. Before, Tyler inadvertently only talked to his mom most of the time. Now, he and his father are best friends.

"My relationship with my son has improved so much after being involved in his treatment at ISTAR," says Terry. "Tyler's progress in school and sports has improved as a result of his new confidence, because of ISTAR."

The institute at the U of A's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine has been offering specialized treatment to children, teens and adults who stutter since 1986. It is also a world leader in stuttering research. ISTAR has expanded its Calgary office this winter, ensuring Calgarians who stutter have the opportunity to receive the treatment they need.

"Stuttering can have serious emotional, social and vocational consequences for adults and school-age children," says Marilyn Langevin, acting executive director of ISTAR. "It can limit children from reaching their potential in school and limit adults from seeking the work that they, in their hearts, want to do." She adds, "Our recent research shows that stuttering can even prevent preschoolers from participating or leading peers in play. Play is hugely important for children."

"Stuttering affects as many as 11 per cent of preschool children. Expanding our services to Calgary and building awareness around stuttering is important. We want to serve as many Albertans as we can," says Martin Ferguson-Pell, dean of the faculty.

The ISTAR Calgary satellite office is located in just north of downtown in the Hillhurst Building. For more information, visit www.istar.ualberta.ca.

Wirth Institute director to retire at the top

Michael Davies-Venn

A little more than a decade after establishing one of the University of Alberta's premier institutes, Franz Szabo retires as its director on June 30.

Franz Szabo

Since its creation in 1998, Szabo has been the only director with the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies, created at the U of A to raise the profile of central European studies in Canada. In fact, he says the institute he is leaving is one of a kind.

"There are similar institutes in the Unites States and Europe, but none have the kinds of programming that we have," said Szabo. "The mixture of both academic and cultural activities is something that is also very uncommon.

"I'm leaving a premier centre in a premier institution with solid financial backing and a good relationship with the respective communities and governments that are involved."

John-Paul Himka, U of A history researcher, says Szabo has used diplomacy and vision to build an institute that is important for the university.

"I don't think everybody could do what he has done," said Himka. "His co-workers call him 'the emperor,' because he specializes in the Habsburg Monarchy and he is everything to the institute. Franz is not just a diplomat who brings people together; he also managed to solicit a $10-million donation. That doesn't happen every day. He never realized he was a fundraiser, or a diplomat, but he rose to the occasion."

To help celebrate Szabo's legacy, the Czechoslovak Society of the Arts and Sciences of Alberta in Edmonton will be hosting a concert March 2 at Convocation Hall, which will feature the Kapralova String Quartet from Prague.

Paul Jelen, U of A professor emeritus and president of the society, describes Szabo as a caring person, a passionate historian and promoter of the good that the Austro-Hungarian Empire represented. Szabo has also been bridging centuries-old divides among members of the communities from central Europe, while recognizing their differences, Jelen says.

"He told me several times that the institute is the forum in which community members from countries formerly within the Hapsburg Monarchy—also commonly called the Austro-Hungarian Empire—can talk about their history and forget their differences and nationalistic preferences," Jelen said.

"At some point, all of these countries were part of a single country, and that common cultural legacy that they share is a good starting point," for reconciling national differences, Szabo says. "I have tried to look to the future by discouraging some of the national prejudices and emphasizing the degree to which we do indeed have things in common in that part of the world and the significance of that. I've tried to provide the framework where it is possible to see those similarities."

Jelen adds the institute has always played an active role amongst the communities it represents. "Franz felt the reason the institute exists was to help the members of the local communities within the boundaries of the institute, and the institute has always helped in whatever way it could. This concert is our thank you to him for all the great work he has done," he said.

Szabo says community outreach is the singular most important successes of the institute, adding 50 per cent of the funds for the doctoral fellowship internship program the institute runs come from the community. The program brings students from Eastern European countries to the U of A.

"I've had the ironic experience where our interns tell me that they've had more experience about central Europe as a whole than they did when they were in their own countries," said Szabo. "At the institute, they get to know each other, understand each other and learn more about their neighbours."

Pharmacology's guiding light passes

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta is mourning the sudden death of Susan Dunn, considered by her colleagues to be a gentle and respected chair of the Department of Pharmacology, on Feb. 18. She was 57.

Susan Dunn

"I offer my deepest condolences at this difficult time, knowing that as much as Susan was a colleague, teacher and mentor, she was also a dear friend to many," said Philip Baker, dean of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. "Susan was a highly valued member of our faculty and someone I respected immensely.

"Her loss will not just be felt by us personally, but also by the entire academic and scientific community."

Originally from Scotland, Dunn received her PhD at the National Institute for Medical Research in London, England. Following post-doctoral work at the California Institute of Technology and Imperial College London, she was appointed as a professor in the College of Medicine at the University of Iowa prior to coming to the U of A in 1988.

She has spent the majority of her distinguished career at the U of A as a professor in the pharmacology department and at the Centre of Neuroscience.

Her world-renowned research centred on the molecular pharmacology of neurotransmitter receptors that mediate much of the fast neurotransmission throughout the brain.

In addition to her being named department chair in July of 2008 after serving as deputy chair for the previous five years, Dunn had served as graduate co-ordinator of the department and was a member of numerous committees.

Dunn's teaching, research and professional activities have extended beyond the U of A to include the United States and the United Kingdom. She was widely published and has been invited to present on numerous international occasions. Dunn was a reviewer for many scientific journals and was frequently called upon by funding agencies to review grant proposals.

Beyond her research, Dunn's colleagues remember an instructor who found a commonality with her students, as well as being an exceptional leader.

"In the time she led the department, she was dealing with quite a bit of change within the faculty, but dealt with it vigorously and acted in a way that led pharmacology to be even stronger than it had been in the past," said Bill Dryden, professor emeritus in the department and a long-time friend. "She dealt with everyone in the gentlest of ways. Everybody felt she was on their side."

Medical researcher's paper named a 'classic'

Quinn Phillips

Researchers around the world hope their research can make an impact, and Carol Hodgson in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, knows her research has been noticed. Her paper is being added to the journal *Academic Medicine*'s "classics."

Carol Hodgson

"It's nice when an article gets read and other people then cite it," said Hodgson. "That's pretty cool and it makes you feel pretty good that people noticed it and read it."

The classics are a group of papers that have been cited 50 or more times, between 1990 and 2010, since publication. Hodgson, whose first paper of a series was published in 2005, says her study is being noticed because "it's an area so many people are interested in."

The study looked at graduates from three different American medical schools who had been disciplined by the state medical board. It looked at their academic records and compared them with other students who were not disciplined.

Her research found that there are a number of things students do that help predict problems in professionalism down the road, including being late for clerkships and refusing recommendations to get an immunization before seeing certain patients.

"This study is cool because it was a very long-term study," said Hodgson. "You have to wait a long time because students aren't usually disciplined by the state medical board when they're residents; it's not until they're out in practice for many years."

Hodgson now wants to work with students and faculty in dentistry and pharmacy at the U of A to see if the same personality traits might spell trouble down the line.

"It'd really be nice to replicate the study in other areas," said Hodgson. "Pharmacy school would be perfect. Pharmacists have access to drugs, and this is a problem if you're going to use drugs—they're right there.

"Considering the frequency of citations within education and research, this is quite an accomplishment to have your work recognized so rapidly by so many," said Marek Michalak, vice-dean of research for the faculty. "Within five years, to reach more than 50 citations and be awarded this recognition, that's an indication of some significant contribution."

RE/MAX Real Estate Centre

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Computing science rewriting the program to get girls in the game

Jamie Hanlon

A joint research project between the University of Alberta's Faculty of Education and the Department of Computing Science has found that, for high-school girls, the fun is in making video games, not just playing them.

Computing science professor Duane Szafron and fellow U of A researchers Mike Carbonaro, Jonathan Schaeffer and Maria Cutumisu say that women in computing science are rare, but their study shows that if you want to get more females interested in computing science, you have to rewrite the program, so to speak.

"There's been a huge push throughout North America to try and get girls to go into computing science, but [educators are] having a lot of challenges convincing them," said the Faculty of Education's Carbonaro. "The findings are important, as they demonstrate a way to motivate girls' interest in computing science."

In their study, the researchers wanted to see whether girls would gain as much interest in game development as the boys in the class-control group. To facilitate the experiment, they introduced a group of local Grade 10 students to a program called ScriptEase, a tool that allowed them to develop and design their own games. A key factor in the study was having male participants who had more experience than the females in gaming.

Szafron says that there is an inherent creative component to computing science, and that having a student design and construct something using the tool is one way to allow them to investigate that aspect of computing science. "We thought we should have female students create games and see if they are just as excited about making games as male students and see whether it's an attractor to computing science that is independent of gender," he said.

Their findings indicated that female students enjoyed creating games as much as their male counterparts; further, they preferred game construction to activities such as story writing. Szafron also noted the female students gained and used practical skills that are crucial to understanding computing science.

"The female students built games that were every bit as good as the male students made, even though the male students had more experience with playing games," said Szafron. "In terms of the quality of the games developed and the abstraction skills that the students learned, which could translate to knowledge of computing science—and in terms of the amount of fun that they had—there was no difference between the two groups."

According to Carbonaro, computing science teachers need to look at redesigning the types of projects and content they use in class to make them more "female-user friendly."

"If you want more females in computing science, you need to radically change the curriculum. You need to provide activities that are more gender neutral so that they'll be attracted to the discipline."

The research study was recently published in *Computers and Education*.

Jamie Hanlon

Computing science professor Duane Szafron and researcher Maria Cutumisu.

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Expanded blood inventory to broaden diagnosis options

Brian Murphy

After three years of exhaustive analysis led by a University of Alberta researcher, the list of known compounds in human blood has exploded from just a handful to more than 4,000.

"Right now a medical doctor analyzing the blood of an ailing patient looks at something like 10 to 20 chemicals," said U of A biochemist David Wishart. "We've identified 4,229 blood chemicals that doctors can potentially look at to diagnose and treat health problems."

Blood chemicals, or metabolites, are routinely analyzed by doctors to diagnose conditions like diabetes and kidney failure. Wishart says the new research opens up the possibility of diagnosing hundreds of other diseases that are characterized by an imbalance in blood chemistry.

> "This is the most complete chemical characterization of blood ever done."
>
> David Wishart

Wishart led more than 20 researchers at six different institutions using modern technology to validate past research, and the team also conducted its own lab experiments to break new ground on the content of human-blood chemistry.

"This is the most complete chemical characterization of blood ever done," said Wishart. "We now know the normal values of all the detectable chemicals in blood. Doctors can use these measurements as a reference point for monitoring a patient's current and even future health."

Wishart says blood chemicals are the "canary in the coal mine" for catching the first signs of an oncoming medical problem. "The blood chemistry is the first thing to change when a person is developing a dangerous condition like high cholesterol."

The database created by Wishart and his team is open access, meaning anyone can log on and find the expanded list of blood chemicals. Wishart says doctors can now tap into the collected wisdom of hundreds of blood-research projects done in the past by researchers all over the world. "With this new database doctors can now link a specific abnormality in hundreds of different blood chemicals with a patient's specific medical problem," said Wishart.

Wishart believes the adoption of his research will happen slowly, with hospitals incorporating new search protocols and equipment for a few hundred of the more than 4,000 blood-chemistry markers identified.

"People have being studying blood for more than 100 years," said Wishart. "By combining research from the past with our new findings we have moved the science of blood chemistry from a keyhole view of the world to a giant picture window."

Cannabis' active ingredient enhances appetite in cancer patients

Ken Mathewson

The active ingredient in marijuana has the ability to improve the taste and enjoyment of food in advanced cancer patients, a new study shows.

Wendy Wismer, a professor with the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, led a study that looked at 19 patients with advanced types of cancer, 11 of whom were given small doses of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC—the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana—while the remaining eight were given a placebo. The study is the first randomized, controlled trial to show that THC makes food taste better and improves appetites for patients with advanced cancer.

In Wismer's study, patients took pills and completed taste and smell surveys twice a day for 18 days and were then interviewed.

Of those taking THC, Wismer said nearly three quarters of them reported that their food tasted better and that 64 per cent of them said their appetite had increased. The majority of the patients taking a placebo said their appetites either decreased or didn't change at all. Only 10 per cent of them claimed that the taste of food improved.

Cancer patients typically have a dramatically reduced desire to eat.

"It's very important to address these problems, as both appetite loss and alterations to taste and smell lead to involuntary weight loss and reduce an individual's ability to tolerate treatment and stay healthy in general," said Wismer, who penned the study along with graduate student Tristin Brisebois and other colleagues from the University of Alberta and McGill University.

Although alterations in taste and smell have been documented for decades in cancer patients, medications commonly used to treat loss of appetite have so far met with sporadic results. The situation has been widely regarded as an unfortunate, but unavoidable, consequence of the disease.

"Cancer patients are often told to 'cope' with chemosensory problems by eating bland, cold and odourless food," said Wismer. "This may well have the result of reducing food intake and food enjoyment.

"I would hope the results of this study help make obtaining THC easier for patients, particularly given the fact that there were other benefits as well," said Wismer. "Patients enjoyed better quality of sleep and relaxation, and everyone involved in the study said they were less depressed."

The results of the study were published online in the cancer journal *Annals of Oncology*.

Ken Mathewson

Wendy Wismer (left) uses a "sniffing stick" in order to test the nasal chemosensory performance of a student.

Festival celebrates in the classroom

Jamie Hanlon

What about yours?

Milton Schlosser likes to keep his focused, passionate and curious. Tim Parker likes to challenge his. Roxanne Hard likes to help hers take ownership of their experience. Billy Strean has a whole bag of tricks to motivate his.

All four professors have opened their classes to the university public to see how they engage the public, and they are only a sampling of the more than 100 classes students, staff, faculty and alumni can observe as part of the Festival of Teaching running March 7 to 10.

"It's an opportunity to come away with new ideas," said festival co-chair Anne Naeth. "They get to see different approaches, different methods and explore various teaching styles."

And it's not just the attendees who gain from this experience either, says Naeth. The instructor-participants gain from having been part of the synergy and success of the festival. They also have the opportunity to draw feedback and interaction from the observers post-event. "I know a lot of the instructors are very excited about being part of this year's festival," she said.

With [illegible] class schedules to choose from over the course of the four days, including a day dedicated to Augustana Campus, there is an opportunity to observe a wide variety of classes covering the social and physical sciences, humanities, music, native studies and law. Course schedules can be found online. For more information, please contact Karen Unger at karen.unger@ualberta.ca.

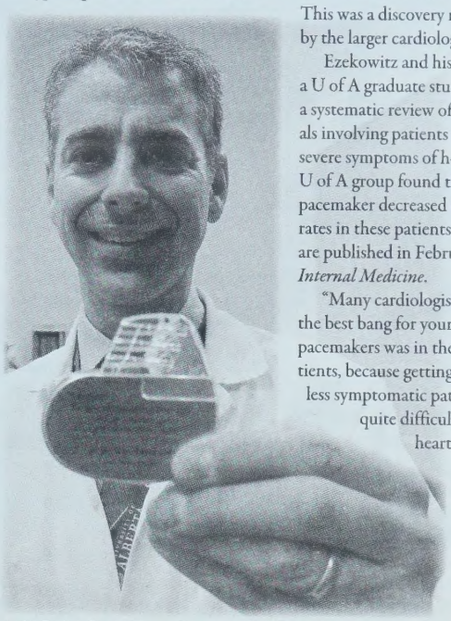
Made-at-the-U of A pacemaker passes the test

Quinn Phillips

Victor Timmins was having trouble doing even the simplest tasks; even walking was difficult.

"My health was failing," said Timmins. "I couldn't do anything; I was completely pooped."

After living with fairly severe heart failure, Timmins received the newest type of pacemaker called cardiac resynchronization therapy in February of 2009. It allows both the left and right ventricles to synchronize and beat together.



Justin Ezekowitz and the cardiac resynchronization therapy pacemaker.

Timmins was a perfect candidate for this pacemaker because of his symptoms. It's people with less severe symptoms who are harder to treat. But Justin Ezekowitz, a University of Alberta cardiologist, has found that people with less severe symptoms than Timmins will do well with this device. This was a discovery not anticipated by the larger cardiology community.

Ezekowitz and his team, including a U of A graduate student, conducted a systematic review of 25 clinical trials involving patients who have less severe symptoms of heart failure. The U of A group found this new type of pacemaker decreased illness and death rates in these patients. The findings are published in February's *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

"Many cardiologists had felt that the best bang for your buck with these pacemakers was in the more severe patients, because getting a large benefit in less symptomatic patients is actually quite difficult to achieve with heart-failure therapy," said Ezekowitz.

One of the largest studies his team reviewed was done in Ottawa. Given the length of this trial and its rigour, especially when considered along with the results of another trial that had similar results, it's quite clear this therapy can help this group of patients, Ezekowitz said.

As well as reducing illness and death rates, use of this pacemaker reduces the number of hospital visits from patients in this group, so there's also potential for lowering health-care costs.

"A cost-benefit analysis needs to be done," said Ezekowitz. "Generally, if you think that at least half of expenses for heart failure are hospitalization-based, anything that reduces that hospitalization burden is likely to have some incremental benefit."

The findings of this scientific systematic review will likely influence the recommendations of clinical practice guideline committees and change how these patients are treated. In Edmonton, Ezekowitz says it is likely change will happen quickly.

"Our electro-physiologists are already open to changing their practice, effective immediately," said Ezekowitz.

As Timmins is showing, it would be hard to deny the benefits of this device for heart failure patients. His health has improved so much he's hoping to get back to swimming.

"I've been great since; I can do things I couldn't do before," said the 81-year-old. "You don't need to worry about your heart; this is an aid to keep it in rhythm. Without it I don't think I'd be talking to you today."

GFC COMMITTEES AND COMMITTEES TO WHICH GFC ELECTS MEMBERS: ACADEMIC AND SUPPORT STAFF NEEDED

The terms of office of a number of academic and support staff members serving on General Faculties Council (GFC) standing committees and on committees and appeal boards to which GFC elects members will expire on June 30, 2011. The GFC Nominating Committee (NC) is seeking academic and support staff members to fill the following vacancies for terms normally three (3) years in length, beginning July 1, 2011.

GFC Standing Committee and Appeal Boards	Staff Vacancies	Meeting Times
ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (APC): GFC's senior committee dealing with academic, financial and planning issues.	TWO academic staff members (Category A1.0)	2:00 pm/ twice monthly, Alternating Wednesdays
CAMPUS LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE (CLRC): Reviews Code of Student Behaviour, Code of Applicant Behaviour and Residence Community Standards.	ONE academic staff member (Category A1.0) who is a former Associate Dean, Discipline Officer (DO) or University Appeals Board Chair ONE staff member (Categories A1.0, A2.0 or B1.0)	9:30 am/4th Thursday
COMMITTEE ON THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT (CLE): Promotes an optimal learning environment in alignment with guiding documents of the University of Alberta.	ONE academic staff member (Category A1.0)	2:00 pm/1st Wednesday
FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (FDC): Recommends on planning and use of facilities, proposed buildings, use of land, parking and transportation facilities.	ONE academic staff member (Category A1.0) who is NOT from the Faculties of Native Studies or Arts as these Faculties have representation on FDC	1:30 pm/4th Thursday
UNIVERSITY TEACHING AWARDS COMMITTEE (UTAC): Adjudicates the Rutherford, William Hardy Alexander, Provost's and Teaching Unit Awards.	TWO academic staff members (Categories A1.1, A1.5 or A1.6) and ONE academic staff member (Category A2.1) who are NOT from the Faculties of Education or Nursing as these Faculties have representation on UTAC	Normally 3 times a year (Sept, Mar and Apr)
GFC ACADEMIC APPEALS COMMITTEE (AAC) / UNIVERSITY APPEAL BOARD (UAB): AAC hears and decides student appeals regarding academic standing. UAB hears and decides student appeals and applicant appeals regarding disciplinary decisions made under the Code of Student Behaviour or Code of Applicant Behaviour.	**AAC:** TWO academic staff members (Categories A1.1, A1.5 or A1.6 or on post-retirement contract) on the Panel of Chairs TWO faculty members on the Panel of Faculty members **UAB:** ONE academic staff member for the Panel of Chairs	• Hearings are scheduled as needed Monday to Thursday. • Hearings normally start at 4:30 or 5:00 PM, and last 3 to 5 hours.
Committee/Body to Which GFC Elects Members	**Staff Vacancies**	**Meeting Times**
DEPARTMENT CHAIR SELECTION COMMITTEE: Members are chosen in rotation from a panel of 15 to serve on Department Chair selection committees.	SIX academic staff members (Categories A1.1, A1.5 or A1.6)	Constituted as selection processes are initiated
SENATE: Links with the community and is an independent advisory body of community leaders.	ONE academic staff member (Categories A1.1, A1.5 or A1.6); MUST be members of GFC	4 times a year
EXTENSION FACULTY COUNCIL: Represents University interests on Extension's Faculty Council.	THREE academic staff member s (Category A1.0) who are not members of the Faculty of Extension)	Average of 6 times a year
HENRY MARSHALL TORY CHAIR SELECTION COMMITTEE:	ONE academic staff member (Categories A1.1, A1.5 or A1.6)	Constituted as selection processes are initiated

Information about GFC committees is available on the University Governance website at http://www/governance.ualberta.ca/ Definitions of Categories of Staff are found by going to the above-noted website and accessing the GFC Policy Manual, Section 5.1.4. All nominations should be accompanied by a brief biographical sketch (max. 150 words) and directed to Marlene Lewis, Coordinator, GFC Nominating Committee, Room 3-20 University Hall (780.492.1938) **or** by e-mail to marlene.lewis@ualberta.ca by **Monday, March 21, 2011**.

news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Nutrition in pregnancy study still recruiting

Though women know they must eat well during pregnancy, researchers at the University of Alberta hope to help them make more informed decisions with the Alberta Pregnancy Outcomes and Nutrition study.

The team looks at pregnant women's nutritional intake and how this impacts their physical and mental health, as well as the baby's development. "One of the first questions a woman asks her doctor is how much weight she should gain during pregnancy", says Catherine Field, a professor with the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, and a lead investigator with the study.

Field says they hope to gain some understanding of what women eat during pregnancy, what supplements they might be taking, what activities they participate in and how they feel before and after giving birth. This large-scale study is still looking to recruit thousands of participants who are less than 27 weeks pregnant, and, by participating, women will help advance the knowledge of nutrition on a mother's health and wellness and her baby's development. For more information call 780-492-4667, or check out the website at www.apronstudy.ca.

Research VP says social sciences at core of innovation

Lorne Babiuk says innovation cannot work effectively without input from researchers in the social sciences, and that their contributions are absolutely important. Babiuk, the vice-president (research), made the comments during a panel discussion held on campus earlier this month that examined the relationship between basic and applied research on innovation.

"We can have the best technology in the world, but if we don't use input from our social-science colleagues to be able to help us understand what society may accept or not, we may have the best product in the world, but we will never get the full benefit of that technology," said Babiuk.

Recent examples of the ways that the U of A fosters interdisciplinary research include establishing a new Scholar in Residence for Arts Research in Nanotechnology and supporting an ongoing international exhibition, "Perceptions of Promise: Biotechnology, Society and Art."

"True innovation requires an interdisciplinary approach. We now have to start looking at the convergence of disciplines, and we need to be able to find ways to fund programs across disciplines," said Babiuk.

Woman of the Year nominations sought

The Woman of the Year Award is given to a University of Alberta woman in recognition of her contributions to the betterment of women in the university community, either through the course of her career or through her dedication to current activism.

The award is presented by the Academic Women's Association; however, it is open to all female staff and faculty on campus. The nomination should clearly communicate the reasons for the nomination and detail her contributions and should not be longer than two pages, including a brief (200 words) biographical summary. The submission must be signed by the person submitting the nomination. Deadline for nomination is noon, March 4, 2011. For information on nomination submissions, including mailing address, contact Holli Bjerland, AWA president, at holli.bjerland@ualberta.ca.

Aging conference comes to campus

Population aging is a key feature of the early 21st century. In all world regions, proportions of older adults are increasing rapidly. Yet often they are invisible in the face of other global challenges such as climate change, poverty and economic and political migration that have dominated the international stage.

The Global Social Initiative on Aging is a new activity of the International Association of Gerontology. Its mission is to foster collaborative, trans-national approaches to the creation and transfer of knowledge at the intersections of global trends and population aging. A strategic planning meeting will be held at the University of Alberta in the Department of Human Ecology on March 29–31. Its purpose is to launch the GSIA and to create an international research agenda and implementation plan. The meeting will bring together twelve world-renowned social scientists to create an international research agenda and implementation plan. For more information, contact Jacquie Eales at Jacquie.eales@ualberta.ca.

Augustana's Gusdal named ACAC's coach of the year

The Alberta Colleges Athletic Association has chosen Blaine Gusdal of the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus as the 2010–2011 ACAC Men's Hockey Coach of the year.

Gusdal has worked hard to create a successful team culture and is committed to building an excellent student-athlete experience on campus. In fact, his team sports a 3.0 GPA on a very academically demanding campus. The ACAC has further recognized U of A Augustana men's hockey team by selecting several of their athletes for the 2010–11 All-Conference Men's Hockey Teams. Torrie Dyck was selected as a forward on team one, with defenseman Brad Bourke and forwards Scott Aucoin and Dan Hope selected for team two.

Lizards get play on *Nature of Things* website

Michel Proulx

A chance encounter with a film crew from CBC's Nature of Things television program is giving an environmental and conservation sciences master's student a few minutes of fame.

Krista Fink was doing field work, looking for greater short-horned lizards in Grasslands National Park in southern Saskatchewan, when she met the crew, who were filming an episode for the popular science documentary series about the re-introduction of black-footed ferrets, an endangered species, on the Canadian prairies.

During the filming for the episode, the crew was also looking for other projects being conducted on other species at risk. Fink's project fit the bill.

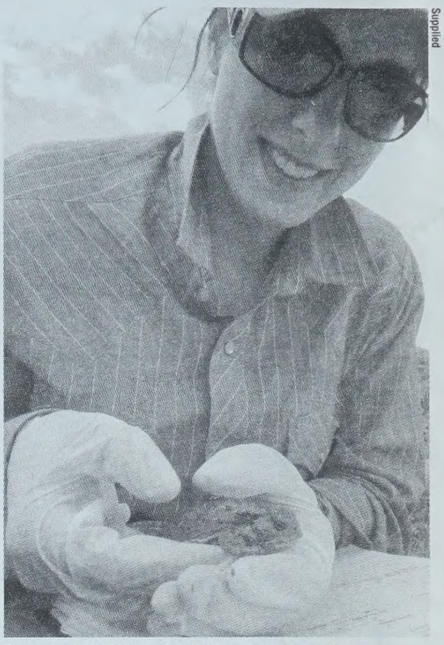
The second-year master's student, who is supervised by renewable resources professor Scott Nielsen and adjunct professor Shelley Pruss, is examining the impact temperature has on greater short-horned lizard's choice of habitat.

In Saskatchewan, the northern edge of the lizards' habitat range seems to be the northern limit of Grasslands Provincial Park, located in the southern part of the province. Fink spent considerable time exploring a pasture 30 kilometres north of the park along the same river system and didn't find any lizards.

"The northern limit of their habitat seems quite well defined," she says, "and I'm trying to figure out if it has to do with temperature. If the lizard is in one place and not another, is there something different between the thermal characteristics (the heat and how it is arranged) in the two spots? If one spot has constant temperature and the other spot is patchy, do they prefer to be in one space or another?"

Fink says the lizards shuffle between hot and cold spots, and because of their small size, their habitat seems to need to have a variance in temperature in small areas.

Fink hopes her project will be able to help determine with greater accuracy the temperature needs of the lizards and help their habitat to be better managed.



Supplied

Graduate student Krista Fink holds a short-horned lizard.

In the meantime, she's quite pleased having her work profiled on The Nature of Things' website along with other videos dealing with species at risk in the same park.

"I think any time we can get our research out there in a more accessible format than your standard scientific journals, it's pretty valuable."

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ALES students head to Cuba for lessons in organic farming

Ken Mathewson

Organic produce has become a popular choice among many Canadians. However, as the students who embarked on this year's agro-tour to Cuba discovered, the agricultural shift to organic produce is sometimes due to necessity.

Students learned first hand, through volunteering at various farms around the island, how the Cuban farmers maximize agricultural outputs without the use of the pesticides and machinery commonly used by their industrial counterparts.

"It's really amazing how much they accomplish with so little," said third-year student Kelsey Reimer, who is studying for a bachelor of science degree in agriculture. "Absolutely nothing gets wasted there. They find uses for everything."

The students, who are studying agro-ecology in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, took part in the tour in January as a part of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences' continuing efforts to give students the chance to marry real-world applications with their academic curricula. The trip, say organizers, is only one of the many ways students are encouraged to participate in outreach opportunities while attending university.

The agricultural initiatives in the island nation have shifted to a predominantly rural, organic structure in order to compensate for the lack of resources necessary for large-scale farming. Jane King, the professor in the department and trip organizer, said that the Cuban government has been forced to restructure its agricultural initiatives since the disbanding of the Soviet Union.

"Cuba was supported largely by the USSR," said King. "They provided them with cheap oil and bought their sugar at roughly four times the market price. When the Soviet bloc fell apart at the end of the 1980s, all of that support was gone."

Traditionally, Cuba had imported the majority of its produce, utilizing their agricultural terrain for the production of tobacco and sugar cane, but with the fall of the Iron Curtain, they suddenly lacked the financial ability to purchase commodities from other countries.

With food shortages approaching critical levels, the government opted to decentralize food production, establishing many small-scale organic farms within both rural and urban areas in order to reduce spoilage and minimize transportation requirements. These "organoponocos," which now provide Cubans with more than 90 per cent of their produce, use a variety of agro-ecological techniques, such as mixed cropping, crop rotation and natural pest controls in lieu of chemical pesticides and fertilizers.

According to Lloyd Dosdall, professor of agricultural entomology, the practices learned by the group could have practical applications in large-scale farming here in Alberta.

"The impact of using less insecticide can be enormous," said Dosdall. "For example, farmers might spend up to $11 an acre treating canola for insect pests. So if we can bypass that input cost, farmers are bound to save economically, and at the same time make the whole industry more competitive and more sustainable."

The students from the U of A who participated in the tour took the opportunity to learn the various techniques used in organic farming, and despite the heat and the physical demands of the volunteer work they performed, expressed appreciation for the insight into the Cuban culture that the experiences afforded them.

"We did a lot of weeding and packaging soil," said Caren Jones, a second-year environmental and conservation sciences student. "Some of us went to the dairy farm and fed the calves. Then at our second hotel, we picked up all of the garbage off the beach, but it never felt like work. I really enjoyed being a visitor and not a tourist."

Supplied

Michelina Kierzek pushes through the jungle in Cuba.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Feb. 28

Department of Cell Biology Visiting Speaker. Darren Boehning, professor in the Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology, University of Texas. 9:30–10:30 a.m. 628 Medical Sciences.

"SEE the research at work" Seminar Series. Policy Making on Climate Issues: the Place of Citizen Deliberation. David Kahane and Jennifer Medlock lead Alberta Climate Dialogue, a community-university research collaboration working with municipal and provincial governments to engage Albertans on climate issues. Registration starts at noon. Seminar starts at 12:15 p.m. Aurora Room, Lister Centre.

March 2–4

Richard Frucht Memorial Lecture Series & Anthropology Student Conference. Keynote Speaker Dr. Monica Heller Public Lecture, March 2 at 7:30 p.m., TL B 1; March 4 at 3:30 p.m., T BW 1.

March 2

I've Been Awarded – Now What? The Research Services Office authorizes and activates projects for researchers receiving research funding. This session will explain the process of setting up a research project from which researchers can spend. Topics include will include required documentation and avoiding delays. 10–11:30 a.m. 2-117 Clinical Sciences. Register at http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=4798.

Share Your Fare Food Festival. Enjoy foods and delicacies from around the world. Food Tickets: $2 each or 6 tickets for $10. Bring your friends along to enjoy. Event hosted by Nutrition Food Science Student Association. Portion of proceeds go to Kids Kottage. 11 a.m.–2 p.m. 2nd Floor, Foyer Agriculture/Forestry Centre.

Kapralova – Czech Republic string quartet. Concert offered by the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences of Alberta as a tribute to the Wirth Institute Director Franz Szabo. "Neglected Masterpieces by Czech Composers," Works by Vranicky Czerny and Dvorak. Pre-concert lecture at 6:30 p.m. General admission: $20 Students: $10. Tickets available at the door or by calling 780-492-1444. 7:30 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

March 4

Wabonwa Night. Engineers Without Borders is hosting Wabonwa Night, a wine and cheese event at Crowne Plaza Chateau Lacombe. Tickets are $25 for students and $35 for professionals. This huge networking opportunity features an inspiring address from the Co-CEO of EWB George Roter, entertainment, and a silent auction to fundraise for EWB's overseas projects in Africa. 7 p.m.

March 5

Campus Food Bank Powerplay Cup. The 2011 Powerplay Cup is an indoor soccer tournament that benefits the University of Alberta's Campus Food Bank. If you are interested in registering a team, volunteering, sponsoring or donating to this event, please check out the Powerplay Cup website for details (http://ppc.campusfoodbank.com/).

Shanghai Quartet. The Shanghai Quartet has won international acclaim as a passionate champion of new music and cross-cultural expression. The group performs Franz Schubert's "Death and the Maiden" quartet, "Matador's Prayer" by Joaquin Turina, excerpts from "China Song" by Yi-Wen Jiang, and the Canadian premiere of the String Quartet no. 2 by Edmonton-born composer Vivian Fung. 8p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

March 8

Public Health Colloquium Series. Our Colloquium Series provides an opportunity for participants to learn from faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and PhD students who share their current research. A wide variety of public health topics, ranging from health promotion to global health, will be addressed in these one-hour sessions. Speaker: Zubia Mumtaz will present "Gender, caste and unequal access to maternal health care services noon - 12:50 p.m. Room 3-06 University Terrace.

Battling Persistent Viral Infections: Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV. Persistent viral infections remain major causes of morbidity and mortality in both the developed and developing world. The U of A's Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology is working to develop improved vaccines to combat these infections and to identify effective antiviral agents for treatment. Join Lorne Tyrrell, 2011 Canadian Medical Hall of Fame Inductee, as he discusses the Institute's work. 4:30-6:45 p.m.

Building the Next Generation Feedstocks for the Bioeconomy. Stan Blade is the chief executive efficer of the Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions Corporation. The new corporation will invest in innovation that delivers value to Alberta's agriculture and forestry sectors, and to all Albertans. AI-Bio will work with stakeholders to provide strategic leadership and investment to create prosperous and sustainable agriculture and forestry industries. 5:30 p.m. 2-009 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC).

March 10

Cell Biology Students' Association Distinguished Speaker Lecture Series. Nevan Krogan, University of California, San Francisco. 3:30-4:30 p.m. 628 Medical Sciences.

Educated Wallet – The Smart Money, Investment Seminar. The Smart Money is an opportunity for you to learn simple and sensible how-tos from alumnus Jim Yih, author, columnist and financial expert. 6:30–9:30 p.m. TELUS Centre 236, $25 per person (includes a light dinner). Visit our website to register online. www.ualberta.ca/alumni/educatedwallet.

March 11

Annual Shevchenko Lecture. 45th Annual Shevchenko Lecture. "Shevchenko and Gogol':The Ukrainian Intelligentsia in Imperial Culture". Speaker, Oleh Ilnytzkyj, Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies 7 p.m. 1-05 Business.

laurels

Lorne Babiuk, vice-president (research), is the co-author on a paper that has been selected by "Lancet," one of the world's leading medical journals, as the paper of the year for 2010. He and his fellow researchers submitted a paper on the effects of influenza vaccinations in children on Hutterite colonies, which was published in The Journal of the American Medical Association.

Lisa Given, professor in the School of Library and Information Studies, has been appointed to a Federal Panel on Research Ethics. The panel was created in 2001 by Canada's three federal research agencies, Canadian Institute of Health Research, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The panel develops, interprets and implements the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans.

Gita Sharma, chair of Aboriginal health and professor in global and Aboriginal health in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, has received an International Polar Year grant from Indian and Northern Affairs to continue her research on nutritional epidemiology in Nunavet and the Northwest Territories.

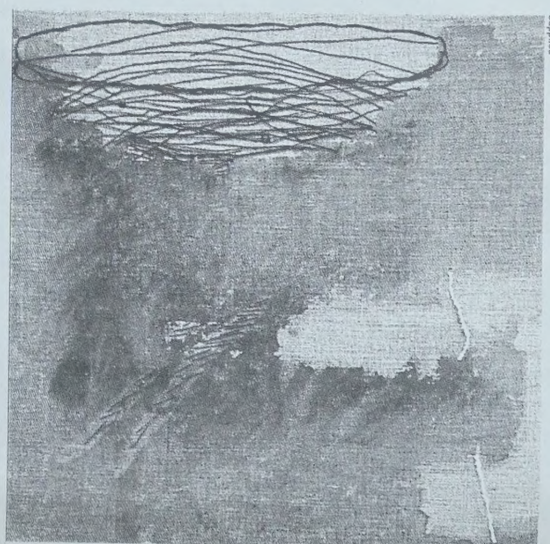
Aminah Robinson Fayek, professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has received the 2011 Walter Shanly Award for outstanding contributions to the development and practice of construction engineering in Canada from the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering.

Donna Goodwin, professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, have been named a fellow of the International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity.

Todd Lowary, professor in the Department of Chemistry, has been elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Jan Jagodzinski, professor in the Department of Secondary Education, has received the Manuel Barkan Memorial Award from the National Art Education Association.

Murmurs overheard in FAB



Supplied

"#61" is part of Hope Wells' Murmurs exhibit on at the FAB Gallery from March 1–26. The display is Wells' final visual representation for the degree of master of fine arts in painting.

Photos: Aaron Yee

The campus that Reading Week forgot

the *BackPage*

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 2
Making the grade
Engineering professor demonstrates that there is always a better way during Festival of Teaching

Page 5
If you build theory, the details will come
Killam winner preaches strong foundation

Page 7
Where is my favourite hat by the way?
Story of staffer's gift of 10,000 ball caps to hit the big screen

Volume 48 Issue 13 | March 11, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Sharpest microscope tip lands researcher a world record

Michael Brown

A very tiny, very sharp object has put Canadian researchers at the National Institute for Nanotechnology and the University of Alberta into the Guinness Book of World Records.

Robert Wolkow

The team, made up of Robert Wolkow, NINT principal investigator, and physics professor Jason Pitters, research council officer at NINT and Mohamed Rezeq, formerly of NINT, created a tip used in electron microscopes that is just one atom wide at its end point.

Wolkow says the tip is like a light bulb, but it emits electrons, or ions, instead of light. A source of electrons, used in a scanning electron microscope, can be used to illuminate everything from cells to semiconductor chips, while a scanning ion microscope will be able to greatly clarify samples that are too small to generate much useful information.

"Those imaging advantages come about because our new source of ions is really, really small. It is like we have a light bulb the size of one atom," said Wolkow. "And, it turns out that an ion beam emanating from a single atom has great advantages in terms of image resolution and depth of field and contrast."

"We did not start out to set a world record; we were trying to make a better tool for our research," said Wolkow. "Having a world record is a fun achievement, but we are really interested in commercializing this product."

Continued on page 2

Full house for Festival of Teaching open house

Michael Holly

Earth and atmospheric sciences lecturer Solly Balzer lectures her EAS 201 class in the Dentistry/Pharmacy Building March 10. Balzer joined dozens of University of Alberta instructors who opened up their classrooms to fellow teachers as part of the Festival of Teaching, which ran from March 7 to 10.

3M winners get satisfaction from students' learning

Raquel Maurier & Scott Rollans

The Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education names no more than 10 3M Fellows each year across Canada, but this year the University of Alberta can lay claim to two of the coveted awards.

The Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry's Scott North and Billy Strean in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation have been recognized for their dedication to providing a superior learning experience for students in their classes.

Scott North

"On behalf of the University of Alberta, I congratulate Scott North and Billy Strean on receiving this well-deserved honour," said Carl Amrhein, provost and vice-president (academic). "These two professors are outstanding teachers and are tremendous examples of commitment to educational leadership and higher learning."

North is being recognized for his inspirational teaching of second-year medical students. Each year, North teaches a four-week block on oncology in the spring. The course introduces medical students to the general principles of cancer, how to diagnose cancer, what symptoms to watch for and some ideas on how to come up with a treatment strategy for their patients.

Instead of giving students experience with just paper-based cases, North brings in an alternative-medicine practitioner or a patient using alternative therapies. In one instance, a patient dying of cancer came in with his wife to talk to the students about their grieving process. Actors also visit the class to act out different scenarios as patients with varying types of cancer-like symptoms. In one exercise, North has the students practise what it's like to break bad news to patients who have been told they have terminal cancer.

North says the best part of teaching is the satisfaction he gets when students have that "ah-ha" moment while studying difficult concepts. As a practising oncologist, he says, "teaching is that foil for the bad days when nothing is going well, and your favourite patient has been told the worst news you could imagine. Teaching gives you that outlet where you can have a lot of fun with the students and empower them with their learning.

> "These two professors are outstanding teachers and are tremendous examples of commitment to educational leadership and higher learning."
>
> Carl Amrhein

Billy Strean

"Part of my teaching philosophy I've articulated as a tree analogy. If I can provide them with the branches, they'll put all the leaves on. And leaves are transient. The details will come and go and change, but if you teach people frameworks, then they can continually update so the tree will self-renew."

North says his win is really a team win. He says he works with a great group and has had wonderful mentorship over the years. He also appreciates the faculty culture where teaching excellence is strongly encouraged.

Fraser Brenneis, vice-dean for the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, nominated North for the award and was pleased about his win.

"Dr. North is an exceptionally good teacher of cancer education for our learners and an advocate for cancer care," said Brenneis.

Continued on page 3

Meet at Alumni House

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Grant to shine light on how the brain controls breathing

Raquel Maurier

Edmonton researchers with the University of Alberta's Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry have received a grant to use a high-tech technique called "optogenetics" to study how the brain controls breathing. What they learn could one day help premature infants, or "preemies."

Greg Funk

Using a combination of optical and genetic techniques, the researchers turn on and off different types of brain cells responsible for breathing by simply shining a light on them. The research could one day lead to better treatments for premature babies, who are often born with breathing difficulties, and for patients with other breathing disorders involving the brain.

Selected as the research method of the year by the journal *Nature Methods* in 2010, it is the current "craze" in neuroscience research. For example, this technique is being used in lab models of spinal-cord injury to activate nerve cells, which drive certain muscles when the brain has lost this ability due to irreparable spinal cord damage.

Neuroscientist Greg Funk, who works in the faculty's Department of Physiology, received a five-year, $778,000 grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to conduct his research. Funk and his team, which includes grad students Jennifer Zwicker and Vishaal Rajani and technician Tuca Alvares, will use different wavelengths of light via fibre-optic tools to shine light on different regions of the brain—all in an effort to better understand how the brain controls breathing rhythms.

The U of A researchers will also collaborate with two overseas researchers; Alex Gourine from University College London, and Sergey Kasparov from the University of Bristol. Kasparov is a viral geneticist who makes the optogenetics tools that target astrocytes, a type of brain cell.

Working with lab models, Kasparov and Gourine have shown that astrocytes are key detectors of carbon dioxide levels that signal the brain to increase breathing. Funk, along with Zwicker, are heading to England this spring to learn how to use the tools. They will then develop an optogenetics lab back at the U of A to study astrocytes in the regions of the brain responsible for breathing rhythms.

> "Ultimately, this research could lead to new treatments for preemie babies with breathing difficulties."
>
> Greg Funk

Specifically, they want to look at triggers that cause increased breathing in low-oxygen situations. They will then inject the brain with viral DNA that has been genetically modified to respond to light. The viral DNA infects the brain cells they are studying, thus allowing the researchers to switch these brain cells on and off with light.

"Ultimately, this research could lead to new treatments for preemie babies with breathing difficulties," says Funk.

Better grades tell the story of commitment to teaching

Festival of Teaching

Richard Cairney

As the University of Alberta tipped its hat to teachers during this past week's Festival of Teaching, materials engineering professor Suzanne Kresta was happy to open her classroom doors to other professors from across campus.

> "Students taking this class used to come to me and say 'I worked on the problem until two in the morning and I can't even get started.' That was just unacceptable to me. I said, 'I think we can teach this better.'"
>
> Suzanne Kresta

Kresta is one of those professors who know there's always a better way of teaching and is continually fine tuning her techniques so students leave class confident they've got a grasp on an important new concept.

And she gets results. Kresta has taken a mass and energy balances course that once stymied and frustrated students, and has systematically overhauled it, bit by bit, semester by semester, to a point where average grades have risen by 13 per cent—even as the number of students in the course grew from 56 to 98.

"I've been teaching this course for ages but the cool story is that when I started, about 30 per cent of the class totally didn't get it," she said. "Students taking this class used to come to me and say, 'I worked on the problem until two in the morning and I can't even get started.' That was just unacceptable to me. I said, 'I think we can teach this better.'

"So we started looking at where students were getting stuck and we changed some teaching methods, targeting where the learning fell apart. And their performance is up 13 per cent. We are getting content mastery from a lot more students and the standards are coming up."

Kresta makes it a point to "get into the trenches" with her students, attending labs and providing one-on-one assistance whenever she can. It helps the students understand material better, and it gives Kresta insights about her own teaching effectiveness.

When she discovered that students were struggling with terminology, for example, Kresta made the first assignment in the course one that familiarizes them with the language used in the course. She also updated the curriculum by bringing tables used as industry standards into the course—the information wasn't in textbooks.

In her drive to make sure students get the most out of a course, Kresta has gone so far as to look at textbooks used to teach the same concepts in the early and mid-20th century.

"I want to know what are the other ways of explaining this stuff. Learning about the thinking of a discipline makes you understand the discipline better, and sometimes you can go back and pick up a piece of really good information."

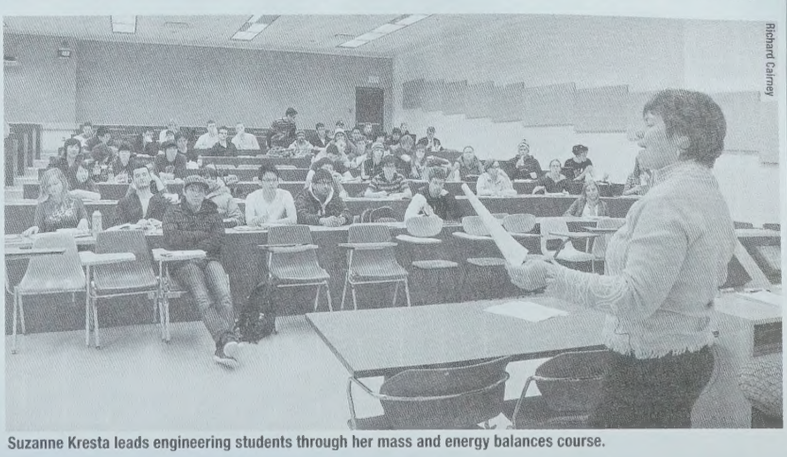
Kresta also works with professors to help improve teaching effectiveness, by joining in "teaching triads," where professors critique one another's class, and by taking part in events like the Festival of Teaching.

Kresta wasn't exactly "lured" into teaching. It was more a matter of being "persuaded" during her undergraduate years at the University of New Brunswick.

"When I first got into it, it was because we desperately needed women in engineering and I got leaned on by the president of the university, the vice-president academic, the dean and department chair and all of my professors, to become an academic. There was a little bit of pressure," she said.

So she tried it—even wrangling herself a teaching assistant position in her fourth year of university—a position typically reserved for graduate students.

"I decided it was absolutely the right thing for me then, and I still do it now because I love it. I love seeing students grow, I love seeing them change and really learn how to think," she said. "I want to teach courses where students get transformed and their problem-solving skills take a big jump."


Richard Cairney

Suzanne Kresta leads engineering students through her mass and energy balances course.

Sharpest object honoured with world record

continued from page 1

> "Unlike some world records, the atomic sharpness of the tip means that the record can't ever be broken—one can't get sharper."
>
> Robert Wolkow

Wolkow says the NINT nanotip looks like an ordinary needle, unless you look closer trying to see the very end of it. He explains that with ever-more powerful microscopes, you would eventually find that the point terminates in a single atom that stands above all the others.

"An ordinary needle would look more like a very rough blob—with a relatively huge overall radius of curvature—composed of many uncountable atoms," he said. "You might imagine dumping a big box full of Lego blocks to form an amorphous pile, and contrast that with a perfect pyramid of blocks—carefully assembled and stacked to form a point with only one little block at the top."

The tip is made of tungsten and fabricated using a patented controlled etching method. It is currently being evaluated for potential uses.

Wolkow says the same tip is now the source in a new holographic electron microscope built over the last couple of years at NINT. "We think it will reveal features of molecules and other nano-entities that can't be observed in any other kind of microscope," he said.

And although a world record was the last thing on the minds of the research team, Wolkow says he takes a bit of pride knowing that the record is here to stay.

"Unlike some world records, the atomic sharpness of the tip means that the record can't ever be broken—one can't get sharper," he said.

3m winners

continued from page 1

"This award is a well-deserved acknowledgement of his tireless efforts and his skills in these domains."

Strean is the first University of Alberta physical education and recreation instructor to receive the award in its 25-year history. "It's a huge thrill to be named to the fellowship. I am excited to join such an amazing group of people for whom I have so much respect," said Strean. As a popular instructor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation with a focus on "learner-centred teaching," Strean builds a connection with his students at the most basic level—by learning their names. "That's a big way of grabbing people's attention," he says. "In a class of 36, within the first five minutes I'll know their names."

As a 3M fellow, Strean looks forward to contributing his own voice to the society's ongoing efforts to promote teaching in higher education. More than that, though, he looks forward to learning from his peers.

"The more one learns, the more one realizes the size of one's ignorance," Strean said. "It's that feeling of, 'Gee, I think I'm just starting to get this right.' There's always more to learn; there are always different ways to develop."

The pace of change presents teachers with a daunting challenge, says Strean. "The whole idea of a lecture makes sense if you've got the only book in town. But, information—the kind that can be read in a textbook or on a website—is absolutely not a rare commodity anymore. And, to the extent to which we treat it like that, we're shortchanging what's possible when you have a bunch of people who are alive and in a room together."

The 3M Teaching Fellowship recognizes exceptional achievements and contributions by teacher scholars across Canada. The University of Alberta currently has more 3M winners than any other post-secondary institution in the country with a total of 34. This is the second time since 2009 that the U of A has had two winners in the same year.

In June, North and Strean will attend a conference in Saskatoon where they will officially receive their 3M awards.

Volunteer-driven HIV treatments prove successful for Uganda

Geoff McMaster

Walter Kipp always knew his hypothesis would bear fruit. Now he has the hard data to prove that using a volunteer team to administer antiretroviral drugs to HIV patients in rural Uganda works as well as, or even better than, hospital treatment.

Four years into his research project in the small town of Rwimi in Western Uganda, and having monitored the treatment of 400 patients both at home and in the district hospital, the U of A public-health scientist and his team can claim victory. The next stage, aided with $280,000 from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, will be to hand the program over to local health services.

"We were worried about the access of life-saving antiretroviral therapies for HIV patients, because they cannot afford to go to the urban hospitals where the treatment is available," said Kipp. "Transport costs have shown to be the biggest barrier to treatment.

"So we decided on community-based intervention and hypothesized that this therapy, which is a bit more complicated than giving an Aspirin, should nonetheless be possible with the help of a health-care facility to provide to people in their homes."

A team of volunteers were given a two-day training session, after which they would administer and monitor the drugs to HIV patients. If problems arose, the volunteers would help get patients either to a local referral centre or to the nearest hospital.

"The district government is really happy about it, and they want to expand it to the whole district, but they have to see how it goes at the local level first," said Kipp. Similar programs have been shown to work in other parts of Africa.

Kipp's team will now conduct more training seminars, set up some rules and guidelines and then let the Ugandans run the treatment program themselves. "Hopefully in three years we'll see that the local authorities can do it, because there is a difference between research programs and local services."

Kipp estimates his treatment program may have helped prevent 800 to 1,000 children from becoming orphaned, a significant result given the prevalence of child-led households created by the African AIDS scourge. He says his most profound satisfactions has been witnessing the hope the program has brought to the region.

Supplied

Arif Alibhai (fourth from left), research associate of the community-based ARV Project with local volunteers in Rwimi, Uganda.

"When you see the poverty there, you can't find the words. People are completely paralyzed." But as something like this takes on success, he says, "you cannot believe how much ability comes out of people, and they didn't even know it. People develop talents they had no idea they had. It has been quite a personal thing for me, to recognize how much talent we have in this group. You know, you could cry about it. It's a kind of overall concept of development, which primary health care in the strong sense really means."

Prof says food retailers need to step up in battle for consumer's buck

Jamie Hanlon

Alberta School of Business professor Yu Ma says that if grocers want to survive a price jump at the gas pump, they'll have to change their tactics in order to attract shoppers "hungry" for better deals.

Ma and his colleagues say that when the price of gas rises, the monthly grocery bill is the prime target for cuts. The researchers noted that there are two sets of decisions made in the gas-versus-grub dilemma. One deals with location, which Ma says is based on choosing the frequency of shopping visits, and distance to the venue. The second is deciding what to buy and when—in other words, whether to forgo a favourite brand for a no-name substitute or middle-tier replacement item—or to search vigilantly for deals or promotions. Consumers may also elect to purchase at wholesale or warehouse stores, thus choosing to buy bulk products in order to save money.

Ma says wise retailers who recognize the changes in their customers' spending trends, will give the people what they want. Industry inclinations towards opening warehouse clubs and supercentres are not something that companies can resist if they hope to survive.

"You have to start thinking about providing one-stop shopping for consumers; they want to go to one place and buy everything in the same store," said Ma. "You have to provide them with that convenience."

And while the gas-and-groceries concept has been around for some time, Ma notes that more retail grocers are using their own gas stations on site as a shopping incentive for customers. By offering discount fuel or savings incentives from in-store purchases, it is a value-added attraction for customers to frequent the stores, even if they may be a little further out of the way.

Gone also, he says, should be the idea of retailers putting only single items on sale. Consumers will less likely be attracted to a store for one item in the expensive gas environment. Savvy grocers will have to come up with novel incentives, such as offering a basket of goods at a reasonable price, as a viable means of attracting consumers, says Ma.

"If grocery retailers can offer a promotion or a pricing strategy that fits the customer's objectives, if they tailor their promotional message to consumers based on how they can save money, it would be much more effective than some blind promotion," he said.

Retailers are not the only ones who will feel the effect of shifting loyalties in the wake of the groceries-versus-gas struggle. Manufacturers also need to find a way to become more competitive without cannibalizing their own brands, says Ma. He cites the example of top-tier brands offering lower-cost, brand-name alternatives to lower priced no-name brands, introduced briefly during the recent economic downturn, as a way to entice consumers. Scaling back a product's price means that the quality is also scaled back, says Ma. But he warns that consumers still want their money's worth, especially when filling the family car with gas is drawing directly from the grocery budget.

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Former Physician in Charge & Neurologist in Shanghai "Longhua" Medical Teaching Hospital
Dr. Shu-Long He
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3) *"In two months of treatment, Dr. He has helped alleviate pain from sciatica, disc bulges and inoperable spinal cysts." - Senior staff member at the U of A*

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Bob Barton, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Feb. 25 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Barton correctly identified the photo in question as Sculpture (Greek) by fine-arts professor Peter Hide, which is located south of the Timms Centre. For his keen eye, Barton has won the last of this round of Butterdome butter dishes.

Up for grabs this week is a copy of "City of Love & Revolution: Vancouver in the Sixties" by U of A history professor Lawrence Aronsen. To win, simply email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, March 18, and you will be entered into the draw.

Child Study Centre
University of Alberta ~ Faculty of Education

Junior Kindergarten (Education S. Bldg)
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For more information on registration for Jr. Kindergarten, visit our website, email, or call 780.492.7341.

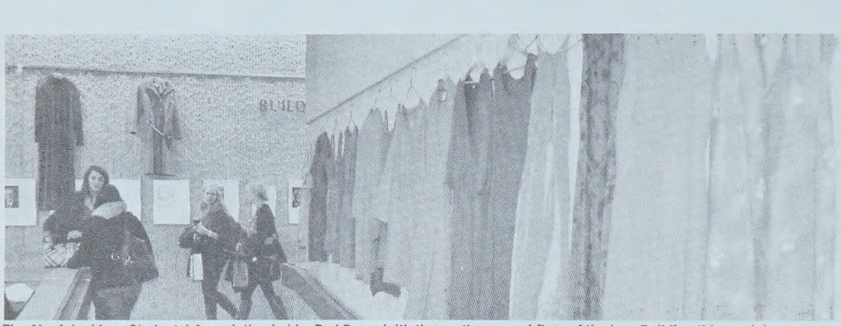
Junior Kindergarten Open House
March 15, 2011
6:30 to 8:00 p.m., Room B03
Education South Building
University of Alberta

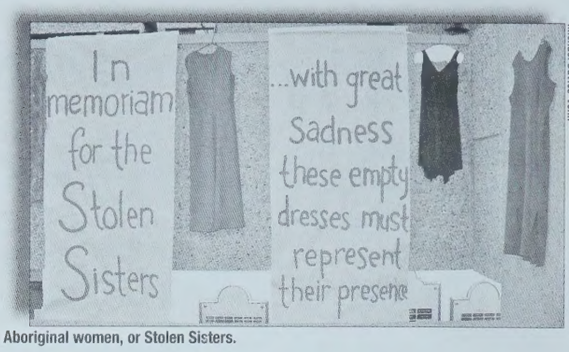
Kindergarten – Grade 6 Open House
March 17, 2011
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Garneau School

Kindergarten to Grade 6 (Garneau School)
Kindergarten to Grade 6 registration for 2011/2012 begins **March 1, 2011**.

For more information on Kindergarten to Grade 6, visit our website, email, or call Garneau at 780.433.1390.

www.childstudycentre.ualberta.ca
childstudycentre@ualberta.ca





Michael Davies-Venn

The Aboriginal Law Students' Association held a Red Dress initiative on the second floor of the Law Building this week in memory of missing Aboriginal women, or Stolen Sisters.

folio
University of Alberta
on the Web
www.ualberta.ca/folio/

Public Hearing

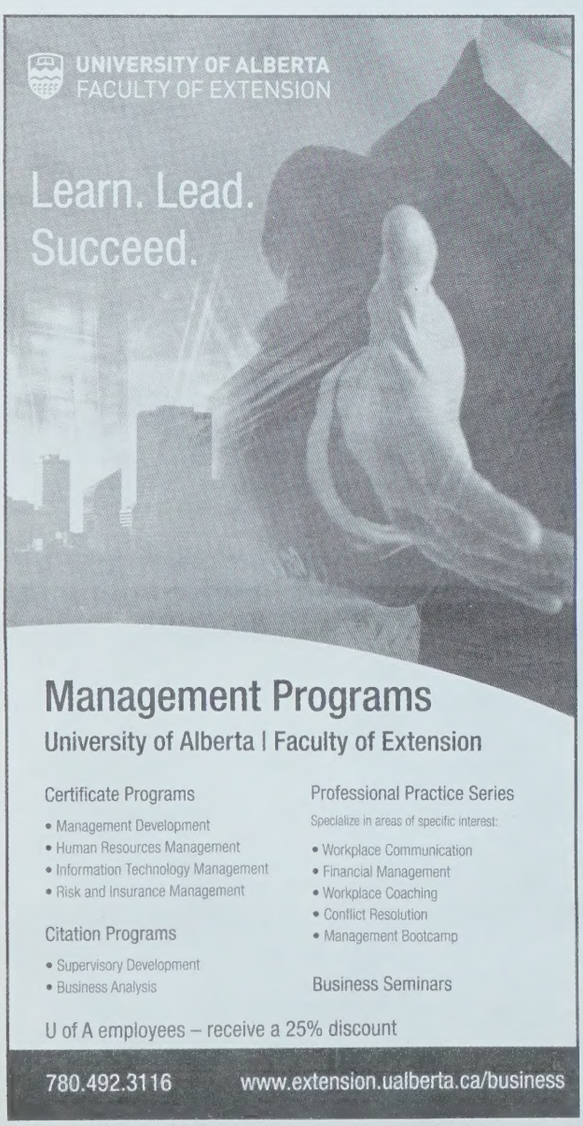
Members of the University community are invited to offer comments about University of Alberta Protective Services as part of an accreditation process (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc)

Monday, March 21, 2011 at noon

Prairie Room, University of Alberta Conference Centre
87 Avenue and 116 Street, Edmonton
Comments can also be submitted by phone by calling 780-492-1457 between 9–11:30 a.m. March 21.

For further information, contact
University of Alberta Protective Services:
Sgt. Jim Newman at 780-492-9254,
or Sgt. Grace Berry at 780-492-5957

PROTECTIVE SERVICES
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA



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The university responds to the province's budget

Carl Amrhein, provost and vice-president (academic)

Carl Amrhein

As you undoubtedly know, the Alberta government recently tabled the provincial budget in the legislature. The good news for the University of Alberta is that there are no surprises. The zero per cent increase to our Campus Alberta Grant for 2011–12, as announced in the budget, was what the government told us to expect, and thus, is what we have been preparing for with the university's budget. Unfortunately, the zero per cent will result in an actual decrease of at least two per cent across the academy because there is no allowance for inflation or other cost growth.

I want to take this opportunity to go over the specific aspects of the provincial budget that are salient for the university and outline any particular implications for the U of A.

Here are the budget highlights as they affect the university:

Lights-On Funding

The province confirmed lights-on funding for the Edmonton Clinic Health Academy and for the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science at $9.8 million base, with an additional $2.2 million in soft funding (which will eventually be rolled into base). This provides us with funding as originally agreed to by the province when the decision to go ahead with both projects was made. This is particularly good news as we are now able to proceed with our scheduled occupancy plans for both of these important projects.

AHFMR Transition

The government, via Alberta Innovates, is providing $118 million over eight years for AHFMR transition funding. We will be communicating a great deal more about this, certainly to those affected by the changes. Over the eight years, the university will work toward securing an agreement for base funding on the positions affected by the AHFMR changes. The $118 million is directed funding to be used only for AHFMR transition.

Infrastructure Maintenance Funding

We received a small increase of $1 million in infrastructure maintenance funding for a total of $22 million for 2011–12. This funding, too, can only be used for its allotted purpose.

the open door

$20 million for Post-Secondary Sector

The budget makes available to the province's entire post-secondary education sector $20 million in order to relieve enrolment pressures. The university was informed by the government that these funds will not be distributed until the fall and the monies will be allocated to all post-secondary institutions in Alberta. The intent of the funding is to relieve some of the pressure we are facing with our current unfunded students.

$5 million Campus Alberta Allocation

The U of A is developing an IT-related proposal and will submit it for consideration for funding from this $5-million funding pool.

Recruitment and Retention Allocation

The budget allocated another $6 million to be dispersed among the four universities in the province to be used for recruiting and retaining faculty. The universities' presidents will work directly with the provincial government and the Alberta Innovates councils to determine how the funding will be most effectively spent. It is our understanding that there are specific spending limitations tied to this funding.

Access to the Future Fund

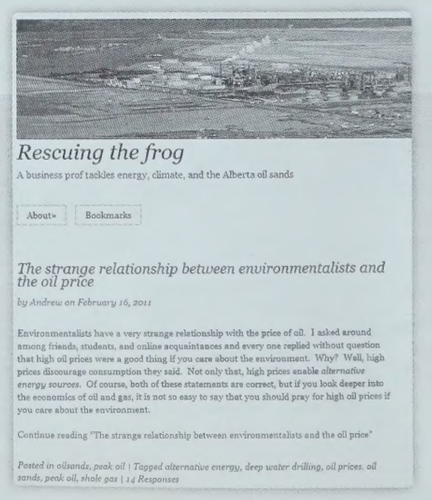
While indicating it remains strongly committed to the Access to the Future Fund, the government has suspended fund payments for the next two years. The University of Alberta has more than $110 million in donations awaiting matching monies from the fund and stopped accepting donations with a matching option almost two years ago. We are working with the deans to develop mitigation strategies and will be communicating with our donors about how the fund's temporary suspension may affect their donations.

Fiscal challenges remain for both the province and the university. We appreciate the very difficult financial situation the province is navigating. And we believe the province is sincere in its commitment to post-secondary education in the province—Advanced Education and Technology was, for example, one of just three ministries without budget cuts, and our minister was able to fulfil all commitments. We will continue to meet with government and make the case that we need a minimum of four per cent increases in future years, along with additional, targeted funding if we are to meet our commitments to providing excellence in research, teaching and learning.

When we know what the specific implications are to the deans' and vice-presidents' budgets, we will communicate that to the university community.

surf city

A University of Alberta professor's take on economy and environment is grabbing attention in the blogosphere. Andrew Leach, environmental economist, energy enthusiast, and Alberta School of Business faculty member, writes "Rescuing the frog" (http://andrewleach.ca/), recently listed in the "Globe and Mail's" roundup of the best economic posts on the Web. His blog "reminds everyone to be careful what they wish for if they think higher oil prices is a sure route to a future full of alternative energy," writes the "Globe." The "frog" alludes to the metaphor of a frog in water that doesn't know it's being heated until it's too late, writes Leach. "I think the metaphor extends beyond climate science and into many of the policy discussions in which I regularly participate. Where does Canada fit into the global discussion on climate change policy?"



Rescuing the frog

A business prof tackles energy, climate, and the Alberta oil sands

About» Bookmarks

The strange relationship between environmentalists and the oil price

by Andrew on February 16, 2011

Environmentalists have a very strange relationship with the price of oil. I asked around among friends, students, and online acquaintances and every one replied without question that high oil prices were a good thing if you care about the environment. Why? Well, high prices discourage consumption they said. Not only that, high prices enable *alternative energy sources*. Of course, both of these statements are correct, but if you look deeper into the economics of oil and gas, it is not so easy to say that you should pray for high oil prices if you care about the environment.

Continue reading "The strange relationship between environmentalists and the oil price"

Posted in oilsands, peak oil | Tagged alternative energy, deep water drilling, oil prices, oil sands, peak oil, shale gas | 14 Responses

Killam winner teaches sound theory first

Michael Brown

teaching & learning, learning & teaching

While it would seem that effective reading would be a critical asset for educational success, some get by using other means.

Rauno Parrila

Educational psychologist Rauno Parrila has spent his career at the U of A exploring those other means, whether he is researching problematic reading development or trying to figure out compensation techniques of high-functioning dyslexics, both outside and inside the classroom.

"I bring research into the classroom every day," said Parrila, who teaches classes on research and on assessment. "Most of my classes are about research-consumption skills; how do we pick research apart? What makes good research? What is evidence? What can we count as evidence?"

Parrila, who is a 2010 recipient of a Killam Professorship, says it is important for him to teach his students to be able to clearly identify ideas that have an evidence base and those that don't.

"In many instances we are looking at research that has yet to be published to see where it fits into the discussion," said Parrila, who is also an editor for *Scientific Studies of Reading*.

Parrila says constant discussion means it is important that his students are equipped with a solid understanding of theory.

"You need a way of looking at things more than you need details," he said. "Details change, details you can find, but if you don't have a way of looking at things, it is all the same—it is all a mess."

Originally from Finland, Parrila decided to pursue his PhD in educational psychology at the U of A in 1992 under the guidance of famed U of A education professor, J.P. Das, after taking in a presentation by Das on his theory of information processing.

Parrila says his initial focus was how students with learning disabilities keep their behaviour on target at any given moment and manage to complete their daily tasks. From there, Parrila's research drifted toward looking at normal versus problematic reading development.

"What we have been looking at is those information processes—how the brain processes information—that are needed for reading to develop normally and, if reading doesn't develop normally, what processes are not working? What are the underlying reasons for reading problems?" he said.

Parrila says his main contribution is in a specific process named "rapid naming," or the speed at which a child can repetitively name objects or colours, and the importance of rapid naming for developing particular reading fluency.

> "Details change, details you can find, but if you don't have a way of looking at things, it is all the same—it is all a mess."
>
> Rauno Parrila

Although there are several interpretations to why results differ, Parrila says it is probably an indication of the integrity of those narrow networks in the brain that support reading development. "Even before you learn to read, that neural network is there. This task somehow taps into how well that neural network works."

Parrila is working with high-functioning university students with dyslexia who are passing their courses and getting degrees yet still have significant problems in terms of word-reading fluency, or how fast they can recognize words.

"When word recognitions are mostly automatic, a reader can focus on trying to understand the sentence and the paragraph. This is a critical assumption in most theories of reading comprehension," he said. "When you have dyslexia, that automaticity on the word level doesn't develop.

"What we find with university students with dyslexia is that they are not automatic on the word level, but their comprehension is as good as anyone else. No existing theory explains how this is possible and we are trying to figure out what are the compensation methods that they are using."

Review of Director of the University of Alberta's Canadian Circumpolar Institute

The current appointment of Dr. Marianne Douglas, Director of the Canadian Circumpolar Institute, concludes on June 30. Dr. Douglas has indicated she wishes to be considered for another five-year term as Director.

Under the authority of Section 103.4.4 of the University's General Faculties Council Policy Manual, Associate Vice-President (Research) George Pavlich has convened a review committee. One part of the review process is to invite feedback from the University community, and anyone wishing to comment on Dr. Douglas's performance as Director of the Canadian Circumpolar Institute over the last five years is invited to contact Katharine Moore, Review Committee Secretary, by phone at 492-0868 or by email at katharine.moore@ualberta.ca.

Comments should be received by Friday, March 25 at 4:30 p.m.

The records that arise from this review will be managed in accordance with the provisions of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

CCI 50 years
1960-2010

Looking at easing immigrants into rural life

Bev Betkowski

Churches, community centres and sports groups in rural Alberta can do a lot to bridge cultural gaps with new immigrants who settle there, say University of Alberta experts.

Interdisciplinary research conducted by a group of U of A scholars outlined challenges that new immigrants and refugees face when arriving in smaller centres, and touched on ways that schools and other cornerstone institutions can help newcomers settle more smoothly into rural life.

"Our focus on the rural areas arose from our understanding that, for immigrant youth moving to rural Alberta, there were often fewer services available to them and less opportunity to integrate into a larger society," said Ingrid Johnston, professor in the Department of Secondary Education.

"The research project wanted to map out how these newcomers were faring," added Andy Knight, professor of political science. "The question is, are they being welcomed? In many cases, they are being marginalized or ostracized because they are from somewhere else, often they have menial jobs, and as a result, a lot of people fall through the cracks."

Knight, Johnston and their U of A colleagues consulted with various community and government agencies and education groups from Red Deer, Lethbridge, Brooks, Grande Prairie and Fort McMurray.

The research project turned up concerns touching on virtually every aspect of life, including education, socio-cultural, economic and political issues. Specific challenges for immigrants include a mistrust of police, lack of local female doctors for immigrant women, not enough instruction in English as a second language, lack of role models, lack of adequate housing, stress-related health problems, a growing, problematic cultural gap between parents and children, lack of civic commitment from new citizens, cultural misunderstanding in the workplace, and problems finding appropriate employment when professional credentials are not recognized in Canada. Concerns also arise when youths working in the oil industry are paid higher salaries than their parents.

The findings can serve as ways to improve policy for government, front-line social service agencies and school boards when dealing with new immigrants, Knight said. "We hope to draw attention to some of these problems and give some policy options to improve the lives of these individuals."

On a local level, community institutions such as churches and sports organizations can reach out and include newcomers—particularly youth—in their activities, and at the same time, be open to change. "Immigrant youths may know soccer or cricket. They don't know skating or hockey, so they don't feel comfortable joining the team. But, they would gravitate to a community cricket game in the region," Knight said.

Efforts by the community as a whole to learn from immigrants and accommodate their experiences "will make them more welcome, rather than letting them struggle on their own," Knight added. "The whole notion of integration is really a two-way street. You want a newcomer to embrace your community's values, but you want to learn from the newcomer as well."

Schools can also help improve the immigrant experience, said Johnston.

"Teachers are very caring of their students, but they need professional development to be aware of cultural needs of students who don't speak English or French." As well, Johnston said, refugee students may have lots to offer the classroom. "They often come to Canada with tremendously rich life experiences."

> "The whole notion of integration is really a two-way street. You want a newcomer to embrace your community's values, but you want to learn from the newcomer as well."
>
> Andy Knight

Simple but effective measures like providing translators for meet-the-parent nights or school events is also important, Johnston said. "Once you encourage the parents to come in, they are interested in their child's education."

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Prof honoured by Cree

Quinn Phillips

A long-time University of Alberta professor has been given a Cree name in honour of the work he has done for the Plains Cree Aboriginal community.

Earle Waugh, director for the Centre for the Cross Cultural Study of Health and Healing in the Department of Family Medicine, received the Cree name "Pewapiskimostos," which translates to "Iron Bull," at a sweat lodge on Alberta Hospital grounds Jan. 29 in an official ceremony led by fellow faculty member Clifford Cardinal.

Earle Waugh

Pewapiskimostos comes with a rich history and is a name Waugh says he is very honoured to carry with him. It is the name of a crow chief and warrior who led the River Crow people in Yellowstone Park area.

"It's a really dynamic and powerful name," said Waugh, who added he was told it isn't a Cree name per se, but rather recognition that Waugh is a part of the Plains people. "I'm part of the extended family."

This credit is well deserved. Waugh's work with the Cree community dates back more than 35 years to when he first arrived in Alberta after doing his post-doctoral fellowship in anthropology at the University of Chicago. Waugh, who is also a professor emeritus of divinity in the Office of Interdisciplinary Studies, was approached by Sister Nancy LeClaire, a well-known nun in the Cree community, to develop a Cree dictionary. The book took 27 years to finish, but is complete and contains all the Cree dialects.

"It's the only book I've ever worked on in my life that sold out in a month," said Waugh.

His work with Aboriginal communities continues as just last year Waugh was nominated for an Alberta Motion Picture Industries Association award for an educational video he produced for doctors and Cree people on cross-cultural sensitivities in medicine.

Waugh also helped organize a nationwide healing gathering in October at the U of A, the first since 1933. Waugh says he will now turn his focus to set up a national network for traditional healers to teach and share their knowledge. He adds this is all vitally important work as his faculty looks to continue building a lasting relationship with the Aboriginal community.

"Having this kind of honour symbolically links the medical school with Aboriginal people in a very personal and intimate way," said Waugh. "I'm particularly touched by this because it is not easy to get this kind of recognition.

"I think the support of the faculty has been absolutely essential for it."

Staff award another notch for Buckle

Michael Brown

The only problem with etching Trevor Buckle's name on the plaque given to him during the University of Alberta annual administrative and professional officers recognition awards is figuring out his title.

"I've kind of been around," said Buckle, currently manager of undergraduate student services in the Faculty of Arts, who won the recognition award in late 2010 as international advisor in the faculty, and has held no less than eight positions in his 21 years at the U of A.

"The one unifying thread for all of my jobs, no matter what office I worked in, has always been student service," said Buckle. "The thing I love about being at the university is the student contact.

"I just find the students so invigorating. It's not that I am really that old, but they do keep me young. It is just so fun to come into contact with the students. You find out what their story it and what they are doing. There is just so much of that youthful energy and that vitality, and they're so creative and they're coming from so many different directions."

Perhaps Buckle's ability to tap into the energy of students stems from an unsevered tie dating back to his years as an arts student at the U of A.

"I literally wrote my last exam on a Friday and began work here on a Monday," said Buckle, who began his career as an admissions and records co-ordinator in the Office of the Registrar.

After stops in the faculties of science, engineering and agricultural, life and environmental sciences, as well as an encore in the registrar's offices as assistant registrar, Buckle made his way to the Faculty of Arts.

As international advisor in the faculty, Buckle is responsible for dealing with admission inquiries of incoming international students as well as unforeseen problems that arise in the admission system.

"[Admission processes] may seem to make sense for someone coming from Alberta, but when students are coming from China, it's not straightforward," said Buckle. "I'm there to look at the big picture, to help process admissions, help with transfer-credit issues, and generally just try to help the kids get here all in one piece."

Buckle also looks at retention issues surrounding international students. "It's not enough to get them here; when you get them here you have to look at how they are doing. I work collaboratively with other groups on campus to look at the international experience as a whole. Are we doing enough for them or are we just dropping them off and saying 'good luck.'"

Michael Holly

Trevor Buckle

staff spotlight

Colleagues say Buckle is acutely aware that the decisions he makes daily have an impact on students and their lives.

"If policies and procedures interfere, he makes sensible changes, seeking appropriate advice and agreement," wrote one of the people who nominated Buckle for the recognition award. "Trevor is the epitome of a team player. He doesn't think about what he needs as much as about how we can best work within the resources that we have, yet still meets the needs of students."

Buckle's work ethic and demeanour have been instrumental in his management of the Faculty of Arts School in Cortona, Italy. Buckle's role has also expanded to include management duties in the Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Student Services office, where he will be overseeing big-picture student-service concerns, student inquiries and addressing some of the bigger issues that students face. No matter what his position, however, Buckle says he can't imagine working anywhere but the U of A.

"There are just so many things going on at the U of A," he said. "It's nice to work at a place where you are proud to say you work there. You can't say that about a lot of [places] but I am proud to work at the U of A."

'Weird science' found inside neutron star

Brian Murphy

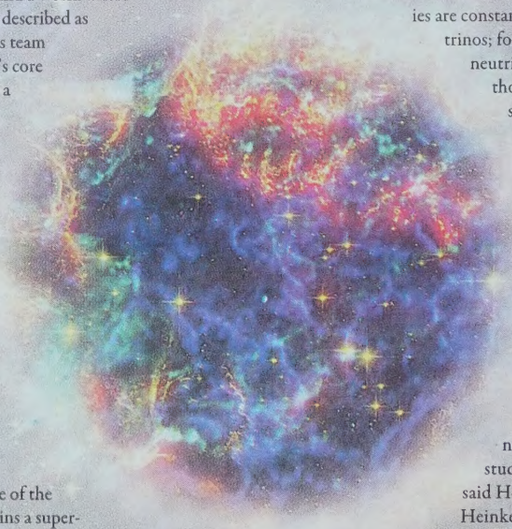
A University of Alberta astronomer has glimpsed the inner workings of a neutron star and found a world where the physics can only be described as "weird." Craig Heinke's team found the neutron star's core contained a superfluid, a frictionless liquid that could seemingly defy the laws of gravity.

"If you could put some of this superfluid in a jar it would flow up the walls of the container and over the edge," said Heinke.

A neutron star is the extremely dense core left behind from an exploding star, or supernova.

Heinke says the core of the neutron star also contains a superconductor, a perfect electrical conductor. "An electric current in a superconductor never loses energy—it could keep circulating forever."

These discoveries came about when the researchers used NASA's Chanda space satellite telescope to investigate a neutron star known as Cassiopeia A. The star is 11,000 light years from Earth and space observing equipment detected a sudden temperature change on its surface.



A neutron star is the extremely dense core left behind from an exploding star, or supernova.

The researchers determined that the neutron star's surface temperature is dropping because its core recently transformed into a superfluid state and is venting off heat in the form of neutrinos, sub-atomic particles that flood the universe. Here on Earth our bodies are constantly bombarded by neutrinos; for example, 100 billion neutrinos passing harmlessly though our eyes every second.

They also found that the neutron star's interior superconductor, affects how the neutron star cools. "This research helps us better understand stars, and the behaviour of matter at levels of density and heat that could never be duplicated and studied here on Earth," said Heinke.

Heinke is a co-author of the research published in February in the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*. Heinke says that, because this neutron star was formed just 330 years ago, it offers researchers a great opportunity.

"We've got ringside seats to studying the life cycle of a neutron star, from its collapse to its present cooling-off state."

Book details a time of sex, drugs and rock n' roll in 'Lotus Land'

Michael Davies-Venn

Sex, drugs and rock n' roll were characteristic of the 1960s, when for a brief moment everything, from ending the nuclear arms race to creating a society less mechanistic and materialistic, seemed possible, says the author of the first book that documents that decade's counterculture movement in Vancouver.

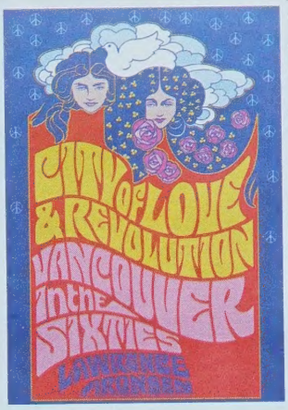
University of Alberta history researcher Lawrence Aronsen, who wrote *City of Love and Revolution; Vancouver in the Sixties*, says his research shows how activists in Vancouver welcomed the California counterculture, considered revolutionary at the time, despite rampant anti-American sentiment.

Aronsen says that "the historic fear was that if Canada had closer trade ties with the U.S, eventually that would lead to cultural domination and then that makes it easier for the U.S. to annex us as another state," Aronsen said. "But the counterculture was seen as a universal, progressive worldview, and it didn't matter if you were American, as long as you 'did' sex, drugs and rock n' roll. We welcomed the culture without critical interpretation."

And, in welcoming the culture, Aronsen says many Vancouverites set aside suspicions of the U.S's territorial ambitions and the downtown Kitsilano neighbourhood became a home and a symbol of hope, not only for Vancouverites, but also for the few thousand Canadians who moved there. They came to help create a better world by rejecting capitalism and the emerging consumerist middle-class society it was producing, Aronsen said.

> "By the summer of 1967 [Kitsilano] had established its counterculture reputation, and hundreds of 'outsiders' visited West Fourth Avenue just to 'drive up and down to see the hippies.' Vancouver became a city of love and revolution."
>
> Lawrence Aronsen

"In 1966, teenage boomers from all backgrounds began hanging out in the hip neighbourhood of Kitsilano. By the summer of 1967 the area had established its counterculture reputation, and hundreds of 'outsiders' visited West Fourth Avenue just to 'drive up and down to see the hippies,'" Aronsen noted. "Vancouver became a city of love and revolution."



But unlike the U.S. where the cultural, political and social changes activists sought were met with resistance from government, Aronsen says it was different in Vancouver. He explains that mass immigration in the later 19th century had prepared the city for the newer cultural import.

"In the late 19th century, mostly from French and English mass immigration, Canada established several identities and cultures," said Aronsen. "So when the '60s came, because the country had this tradition of recognizing different identities, Canadians didn't beat down the counterculture as they did in the U.S."

The counterculture decade, which for Aronsen's book spans November 1963 to April 1975, did not pass completely without violence in Vancouver, however. "The Gastown Riot on Aug. 7, 1971, when Vancouver police ran amok using the pretext of an earlier, non-violent 'smoke-in' at Maple Tree Square, was the closest Vancouver came to the violent confrontations that marked the era in the U.S.," he says.

Supplied

Lawrence Aronsen in Vancouver.

Aronsen says that during that time, Vancouverites who embraced the decade of sex, drugs, music, social and political activism, and theatre, impacted national politics on issues such as abortion, the environment and matters concerning First Nations peoples in Canada.

"The women's and environmental movements are the two most powerful political movements that came out of the 1960s," said Aronsen. "There has been improvement in race relations also. It's hard to measure these things but the '60s accelerated the process of change."

His only criticism of the decade is that it expected too much from humankind. "The bar was raised too high as to how people should behave. It was a kind of romantic enlightenment view that somehow under the right conditions humans can behave like angels," said Aronsen. "The belief was that all violence could be eliminated in human behaviour if we remove people from materialist consumption, and somehow that would introduce a new level of authenticity in human relations.

"As the decades unfolded it has become clear that human beings can't behave by that ideal."

Hanging your hat in a new home for a cause

Michael Brown

If you ever find yourself trekking through the northeast corner of Nepal and you can't shake the feeling that the fellow working in the field ahead is wearing your favourite local little-league team's hat, he probably is.

How your ball cap miraculously made it halfway around the world to one of Asia's most poverty-stricken areas began four years ago with an idea from Wanda Vivequin, communications manager in the Faculty of Science—deliver 10,000 hats to the Himalayan town of Humla, Nepal, to help combat an epidemic of cataracts.

On March 24, the journey of 10,000 baseball hats from Edmonton to Nepal will be featured in a documentary being premiered at the Royal Alberta Museum called *The Forgotten Himalaya*.

Vivequin, who has led tours in and around Nepal for more than a decade, was guiding a trek through the Himalaya's in 2007 when talk with her group turned to how locals might protect their eyes from the sun while they spend their days working outside.

"It was determined that sunglasses aren't really the answer, but a cap would be pretty easy," said Vivequin. "I kind of stored that in the back of my head, and in early 2008 I decided to try collecting some hats before I went back over in May of that year."

Once home, Vivequin began sending emails to those closest to her, wondering if she could have their old hats. Her quest passed the point of no return when a friend at the CBC asked if Vivequin was interested in airing her story on "Sounds Like Canada" with Shelagh Rogers.

As luck would have it, documentary film maker Toby Molins, who coincidently had just suffered an eye injury while skiing, heard the interview and signed up for the journey of 10,000 hats.

Vivequin was filmed doing everything from going to homes, schools and businesses in her quest for hats, as well as working through the transportation logistics of such an unusual shipment.

"I would be working the phones and there would be a box of hats put on my doorstep. Moms would empty out hat collections that piled up in their basements. One farmer gave me 500 hats. ATCO, who sponsored a yak to help carry the caps, also donated a bunch. It was insane, it really was," she said. "I had an entire history of Canada in hats in my living room. If there was a commemorative event and they produced a hat, I had it."

Wanda Vivequin

Residents of Humla, Nepal, sport ball caps from Edmonton.

Beyond the hats, Vivequin says the project was ultimately about raising awareness of the damaging effects of the sun. She said cataracts are attributed to exposure to sun, poor diet and genetics, and that protecting your eyes from the sun is a good idea.

"I remember we held a clinic at the [local] hospital where we announced over the radio we were giving away free hats as well as putting on a clinic at the local hospital on eye protection," said Vivequin of the delivery. "Two thousand people turned up at the hospital to get a hat.

"When we started coming back down into the valley after our trek, we started bumping into people with Ottawa Senators hats or a Kulak Farms Wetaskiwin hat; it was surreal."

All proceeds from the film, which is narrated by Rogers, will go towards funding a cataract surgery camp in Humla in 2011. U of A alumnus Larry Louie of Louie Eye care in Edmonton is the event's sponsor.

"When people think of Nepal, they think of Everest, but this is an area of the country that isn't regularly featured, and they are desperately poor," said Vivequin. "The film is a nice way for people to see a different part of Nepal, and how ordinary people can put a little bit of effort in and help out."

The show begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are $10 at the door.

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PUBLIC MEMBER
University of Alberta Board of Governors

Honourable Greg Weadick, Minister of Advanced Education and Technology, is seeking applications from individuals interested in serving as a public member on the University of Alberta, Board of Governors.

A public member shares with the Chair and other members of the board the responsibilities of: governing the university; formulating policies enabling the board to make responsible decisions on fiscal and academic matters; establishing the purpose and vision of the U of A; and has a commitment to the academic, financial and social well-being of the university and to adult learning generally.

To be eligible, you should have senior leadership experience, an understanding of financial matters, have demonstrated community volunteer involvement and experience with Board governance. Preference will be given to applicants who have demonstrated experience in the management of executive recruitment, retention and compensation; or strategic planning; or demonstrated experience working in or with Alberta's energy sector. In order to maintain regional representation on the Board, Calgary-based applications are encouraged.

Appointment: A public member is appointed for a term of up to three years and may be reappointed for one further term of three years. There is no salary available with this position.

This posting may be used to fill both existing and future vacancies.

If you are interested in this unique opportunity, please forward a resume or a statement of your related qualifications. This personal information is being collected to determine your qualifications and suitability for the position noted above. This information is collected and used under the authority of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have any questions about this, please contact Human Resources, Alberta Advanced Education and Technology, 500, Phipps-McKinnon Building, 10020 101A Avenue, Edmonton, AB, T5J 3G2 Phone: (780) 427-2210; Fax: (780) 427-3316. Apply online at www.jobs.alberta.ca.

For information on the U of A, visit www.ualberta.ca. For more information on the University's Board of Governors please visit www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/BoardofGovernors.aspx.

Deadline for applications is March 18, 2011.

Transplant recipients at risk for skin cancer

Quinn Phillips

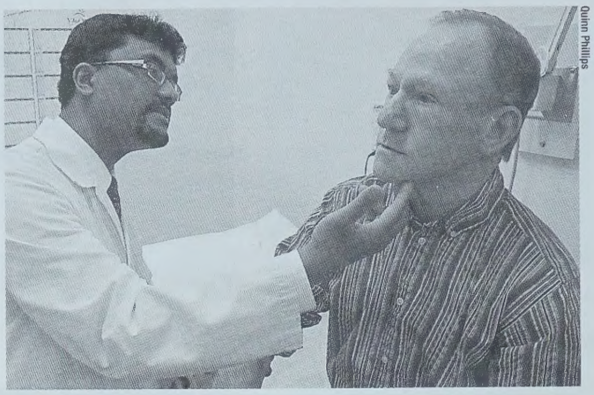
Muba Taher, professor in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta, is doing what he can to protect organ-transplant patients from a particular vulnerability: skin cancer.

In fact, patients who have received solid organs—rather than tissue transplants—are 65 times more likely to develop squamous cell carcinoma. According to the AT-RISC Alliance (After Transplantation-Reduce Incidence of Skin Cancer), they are 10 times more likely to develop basal cell carcinoma and are at three times the risk for melanoma, a deadly form of skin cancer.

To combat this frightening trend, Taher has started a new clinic at the U of A dermatology centre, with a focus on early screening and treatment for those at risk, often because of the suppression of their immune systems.

"We know that these patients are at increased risk for skin cancer; they grow more aggressive cancers faster," said Taher. "I'm hoping to provide an outlet where they can be screened and rapidly treated."

Seven to nine per cent of skin cancers in transplant recipients will spread, and once it has, less than half of transplant recipients survive over two years.



Quinn Phillips

Muba Taher poses with long-time patient Dennis Greacen, who has received a number of islet transplants to treat his diabetes, and has since had two types of skin cancer.

The clinic started in January and the patient load is slowly increasing as Taher gets the word out to his colleagues in transplantation.

"They're very happy to know that there's a clinic that will focus on this issue," said Taher. "Transplant patients have many things going on in their lives, and my colleagues are busy keeping their organ function going, so I'm happy to play the part of looking after that other element."

The U of A couldn't be a better place to do this, considering it is a major transplantation centre performing an average of 256 transplants a year over the last five years, according to U of A hospital transplant services.

"It's good access for the liver, the renal, the lung and cardiac transplant patients who are already familiar with the U of A hospital," said Taher.

In very severe cases, recipients who develop cancer will sometimes develop up to 100 skin cancers per year.

"I hope that one of the spinoffs from this clinic is public education," said Taher. "Just having the word out there that there is such a clinic hopefully reminds these patients that the skin cancer risk is something they should be aware of and there are resources to deal with these problems."

Researcher looks at hormonal influences on genius

Jamie Hanlon

A longstanding debate as to whether genius is a byproduct of good genes or good environment has an upstart challenger that may take the discussion in an entirely new direction. University of Alberta researcher Marty Mrazik says being bright may be due to an excess level of a natural hormone.

Mrazik, professor in the Faculty of Education's educational psychology department, and a colleague from Rider University in the U.S., have published a paper in *Roeper Review* linking giftedness (having an IQ score of 130 or higher) to prenatal exposure to higher levels of testosterone. Mrazik hypothesizes that, in the same way that physical and cognitive deficiencies can be developed in utero, so too could similar exposure to this naturally occurring chemical result in giftedness.

"There seems to be some evidence that excessive prenatal exposure to testosterone facilitates increased connections in the brain, especially in the right prefrontal cortex," said Mrazik. "That's why we see some intellectually gifted people with distinct personality characteristics that you don't see in the normal population."

Mrazik's notion came from observations made during clinical assessments of gifted individuals. He and his fellow researcher observed some specific traits among the subjects. This finding stimulated a conversation on the role of early development in setting the foundation for giftedness.

"It gave us some interesting ideas that there could be more to this notion of genius being predetermined from a biological perspective than maybe people gave it credit for," said Mrazik. "It seemed that the bulk of evidence from new technologies (such as Functional MRI scans) tell us that there's a little bit more going on than a genetic versus environmental interaction."

Based on their observations, the researchers made the hypothesis that this hormonal "glitch" in the in-utero neurobiological development means that gifted children are born with an affinity for certain areas such as the arts, math or science. Mrazik cautions that more research is needed to determine what exact processes may cause the development of the gifted brain.

He notes that more is known about what derails the brain's normal development, but what makes gifted people gifted is very much a new frontier. "It's really hard to say what does put the brain in a pathway where it's going to be much more precocious," he said. "The next steps in this research lay in finding out what exact stimuli causes this atypical brain development."

Prof provides voice for women in Pakistan

Andrea Dobbe

Each year, half a million women in developing countries die from complications in pregnancy and childbirth. Each day, 1,600 women—equivalent to four planeloads of passengers—die needlessly.

"Imagine the indignation of the public if four planeloads of people died every day," says Zubia Mumtaz, professor in the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta. "But because these young women die quietly, unmourned and unacknowledged, in remote corners of the world, their deaths go unnoticed."

Mumtaz, who grew up in Kenya and spent 15 years working in Pakistan, is researching the root causes of these deaths and how they can be reduced.

Over half of these deaths take place in just six countries, and Pakistan is one of them, Mumtaz says, adding that most of these deaths are avoidable.

Her research shows that maternal deaths in Pakistan are not random, but the result of systemic social, political and economic inequities. "An unequal gender order interacts with a hierarchical and unequal class order. This disadvantages the very poor women," she explains. "It is these women in Pakistan who are the most likely to die during childbirth."

Through her research, and time spent living in Pakistan, Mumtaz has discovered that gender and class directly impact a woman's ability to access health services. It is, she says, a very complex relationship.

These inequities are systemic and are woven into the way maternal health policies are developed and the health-care system designed.

"The health-care system in Pakistan is designed to serve the rich. Poor women have very limited access to maternal health care," says Mumtaz.

Recently, the government of Pakistan created the Community Midwifery program. This program trains midwives to provide maternity services to women in remote rural villages, but because community midwives practice in the private sector, Mumtaz questions whether they are providing care to the very poor women who by definition are unable to pay.

"I am exploring whether very poor or socially marginalized women can access these midwifery services."

Genomics ethicist says field needs to move forward carefully

Sandra Pysklywyc

Researchers have been working with the map of the human genome for the past 10 years. In that time, expectations around the promise of genetics research for improving health have continued to be quite high among scientists, policy makers, health-care professionals and even the public.

An article published Feb. 18 in the genomics section of the journal *Science* will more than likely raise a few eyebrows in the research world. The article, "Deflating the Genomic Bubble," is the collaborative effort of a research team comprising a geneticist, an ethicist, a social scientist and a health-law and policy expert, cautioning against the dangers of inflated expectations.

The University of Alberta's Timothy Caulfield, who co-wrote the article with James Evans from the University of North Carolina; Eric Meslin of Indiana University; and Theresa Marteau of Kings College, say genomic research needs to unfold appropriately; otherwise it will damage the field. "While I think there is an emerging recognition in the science community about the challenges faced by genetics, you don't see many statements telling us all to calm down."

Genetic research has often been thought of as the "sexy science," Caulfield says, adding that, with all the attention in the media and the rush for commercial applications, there is a need for re-evaluating funding priorities and determining what is the best bang is for a research dollar.

"The inappropriate hype comes from a number of sources, including the increasing pressure on researchers to 'translate' and commercialize their work in order to justify funding, media representation and the desire to attract research funds."

And while the researchers are concerned about genomic research living up to its billing, they are quick to point out that the work done to date is "breathtaking." Caulfield says, "Genomic research has led to a universe of fascinating basic science discoveries. It has increased our understanding of human diseases and I think it will lead to more targeted and effective therapies. But we need to tone down the hype."

Much of the risk information associated with genetic linkages to common afflictions, like heart disease, is weak, the group's findings show. Caulfield suggests that people need to make behavioural changes rather than rely on genetic makeup or pre-disposition for their health risks. "Even in the face of powerful risk information, like the data we get from the weigh scale or blood-pressure cuff, we continue with our unhealthy habits. The existing data tells us that genetic risk information will not help us perform better."

"We do recognize the health benefits of genetics research, but it's going to take time to fully realize their value," says Caulfield. "In the meantime, we need to be realistic about expectations and perhaps look toward more research into the behavioural sciences."

Fish oil provides surprising benefits to lung-cancer patients

Michel Proulx

New research has revealed that daily doses of fish oil for lung cancer patients improve the efficiency of chemotherapy, may contribute to increased survival and help prevent muscle and weight loss that commonly occurs.

Vera Mazurak, a nutrition and metabolism expert in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science at the University of Alberta, led the study that examined various effects of fish oil, specifically the two fatty acids in fish oil, on lung-cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy.

Cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy often lose weight and muscle mass. According to the National Cancer Institute, 20 to 40 per cent of cancer patients die from malnutrition as opposed to the tumour. Researchers suspect that supplementing the diet with fish oil—which contains omega-3 fatty acids such as eicosapentaenoic acid—may help patients maintain or gain muscle.

"Fish oil may prevent loss of weight and muscle by interfering with some of the pathways that are altered in advanced cancer," said Mazurak. "This holds great promise because currently there is no effective treatment for cancer-related malnutrition."

Mazurak noted that fish oil is safe and non-toxic with virtually no side effects and may be beneficial to patients with other forms of cancer and other chronic diseases that are associated with malnutrition, as well as to elderly individuals who are at risk for muscle loss.

In the first part of the study, the researchers compared the effectiveness of the chemotherapy in shrinking tumours and the rate of survival after one year. In the group of 15 patients who received fish oil on a daily basis, 60 per cent saw a reduction in the size of their cancerous tumour, compared to 28.5 per cent who obtained the same result from the control group who did not receive fish oil.

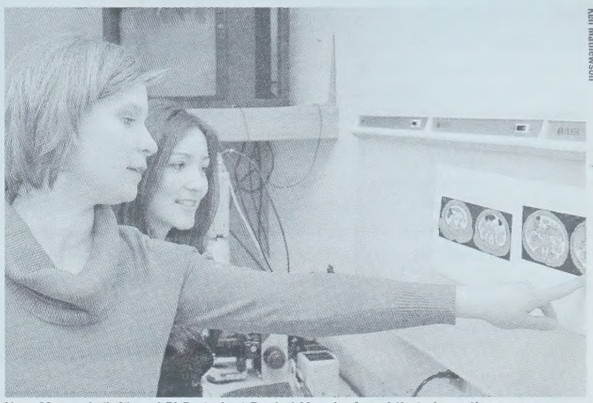
In addition, 60 per cent of those who took fish oil survived beyond a year, compared to 39 per cent of those who didn't take it.

In the second component, the research team examined another group of lung-cancer patients, some of them overlapping with the first group, and looked at the effects of fish oil on weight, muscle and fat tissue.

This part of the trial involved 16 patients who took fish oil and 24 patients who did not.

The researchers found that 69 per cent of patients taking fish oil maintained or gained muscle mass compared to 29 per cent from the group who didn't receive the fish oil. Patients who did not take fish oil lost an average of 2.3 kilograms, whereas patients receiving fish oil maintained their weight.

The research was recently published online in Cancer, a peer-reviewed journal of the American Cancer Society.



Ken Mathewson

Vera Mazurak (left) and PhD student Rachel Murphy found that chemotherapy was more effective for lung cancer patients when they took fish oil daily.

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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Remembering geography department founder

The university community was saddened to hear of William C. Wonders' death Jan. 24. Wonders' association with the University of Alberta was long and rewarding, beginning in 1953, when as an assistant professor of geography in the Department of Political Economy, he established the first courses in geography. From 1957 until 1967 he was the founding head of the newly formed Department of Geography at the U of A.

Named member to the Order of Canada in 1999, Wonders was recognized often during his career and awarded numerous honours and awards, including as an elected fellow to the Royal Society of Canada. Wonders retired from the U of A in 1987 and over the course of his 35 years at the university he provided the academic leadership that developed a leading geography department and saw the foundation of important Northern-related institutes such as the CCI and CINS.

The U of A and affiliated research communities have lost a well-recognized leading Canadian geographer and friend. His impact to the science remains and will be long remembered.

Draper named coach of the year

In 13 seasons, inaugural University of Alberta Pandas head coach Howie Draper has amassed an impressive list of accomplishments, including seven CIS national championships, two silver medals, 11 Canada West titles and three CIS coach-of-the-year awards.

To that Draper can add the title of 2010–11 Canada West Coach of the Year, his sixth such selection. He was also named conference Coach of the Year in 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2009.

Couple's charity recognized through student award

Two new scholarships in the U of A's Alberta School of Business bear a name familiar to Alberta business and charitable organizations alike. On March 2 telecommunications giant Telus and the Alberta School of Business announced the Westbury Family Awards in Philanthropy.

"Drs. Bob and Marilyn Westbury have been champions to many charitable organizations across Canada and in Alberta, and so we are deeply honoured to be part of their legacy of giving back," said Mike Percy, dean of the Alberta School of Business. "Through the generous support of Telus, we are pleased to receive funding to establish the Westbury Family Awards."

The scholarships will be awarded annually, one to a third- or fourth-year business student who demonstrates community engagement, the other to an individual from the non-profit sector who undertakes an MBA or EMBA program.

Administrative task force struck

As a way of determining how to manage the operations of University of Alberta better and more efficiently, Phyllis Clark, vice-president (finance and administration) has struck the Administrative Innovation and Process Review Task Force.

The intent is to bring innovative thinking to the job to make it more satisfying. It is hoped people will bring creativity to reviewing what may be seen as bureaucracy.

One of the goals is to find savings through increased efficiencies, implementing best practices, shared services, and so on. While it may not be possible in every situation, the first response will be to see savings returned to the department or business unit. Centrally funded savings will be redeployed as appropriate as determined either by the responsible vice-president or Executive Planning Committee.

Prior administrative task forces on campus have resulted in millions of dollars in savings and revenue enhancement. Ideas implemented include timely deposits, parking fee increases, preferred supplier contracts and de-customization of PeopleSoft packages, to name a few.

With a make-up of people from across the university, the task force is looking to all members of the university community for ideas on how to make the administrative operations of the university more effective and efficient.

The task force is consulting with the university community and encourages anyone who has an idea to contribute their ideas by April 29 at admin.ideas@ualberta.ca.

The terms of reference, a Q-and-A, a prior listing of administrative efficiencies, along with the task force membership list, can also be found on the website at www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/vpfinance/taskforce.cfm.

Panda wrestlers win first ever CIS championship

The University of Alberta Pandas wrestling team claimed their first ever CIS championship Feb. 26 at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ont.

The Pandas put together 47 team points on the strength of silver medals won by Sabrina Kelly (67 kg) and Marlen Figueroa (59 kg), as well as bronze medal performances from Hayley Thomas (48 kg) and Molly Bouchard (72 kg). Ranked No.2 coming into the championship meet, Alberta was able to hold off the top-ranked Calgary Dinos for the team title.

At the awards banquet following the competition, sophomore U of A coach Owen Dawkins was named the CIS female wrestling coach of the year. "After a long year of hard work our pandas wrestling team have accomplished what seemed to be the impossible," noted Dawkins. "This young squad of hard working women has shown to everyone that they will be a team to be reckoned for years to come."

Engineers Without Borders chapter wins big

Meghan Sylvester

Engineers Without Borders Canada recently held the nation's largest International Development Conference, and the University of Alberta's chapter returned home with the prestigious Greatest Dedication to Learning Award.

"It was really exciting," said Sierra Jensen, the vice-president of member learning, who was at the conference and had the honour of accepting the award. "I didn't know we had applied for that particular award and when they were talking about why a specific chapter wins, I thought it sounded a lot like us."

With 36 student and professional chapters across Canada and only half a dozen awards handed out, there's some stiff competition for each prize. The Greatest Dedication to Learning Award was granted to the U of A chapter in part because of its comprehensive member learning strategy, its school outreach program and its work on global engineering issues.

"We put a strong focus on member learning activities," said Jensen, a fifth-year electrical engineering student. "We put on workshops, watch films and have panel discussions to try to broaden our knowledge of international development issues."

Jensen says they also try to organize meetings between new members and old and help eliminate the loss of knowledge and experience when members leave the chapter.

"We also try to build off of what we've done in the past, like fundraising and public outreach," she added. "We examine what's the best use of our time and change things up if they aren't working. The EWB really values critical thinking, teamwork and making an effort to avoid complacency, which I think our chapter really embodies."

The chapter's school outreach program puts members in classrooms around the province, presenting workshops about global issues like water, food and energy to students aged 12–18. Although it's an initiative that other chapters do as well, Jensen says the U of A chapter literally goes the extra mile, presenting at schools outside the Edmonton area. "We have relationships with schools in Jasper, Grand Prairie, Red Deer and other smaller communities which might not have the resources the city has to offer."

Coming off the big win, Jensen says that the chapter will continue building off what it has done in the past while working towards a better global future: "We do a lot of work, but we have a ridiculous amount of fun while doing it."

Whitecourt youth clinic just what the doctor ordered

Quinn Phillips

It's clear that medical students at the University of Alberta understand the need for more youth-centred health-care services in rural areas.

Samantha Stasiuk and Cameron Sklar, both third-year students in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, have started a new youth clinic in Whitecourt with the aim of serving patients between 13 and 25. This is a much-needed initiative, identified by the students as part of their curriculum, because in small towns it can be difficult for youth to go to the local hospital for confidential medical advice because of a lack of anonymity.

"We thought it was really important to foster an environment where teens could come to the clinic without seeing their neighbour or their mom's best friend—a safe place to seek health care, with extended hours," said Stasiuk.

The clinic runs Tuesdays between 4–7 p.m., the perfect time for students to get there after school. With the help of their preceptor, Tahmeena Ali, Stasiuk and Sklar have been treating about five patients a shift. This has moved up from three a week, and they say they've been tracking how youth have heard about the clinic, all through word-of-mouth.

"When you consider teaching time and the complexity of the cases that we're seeing, we're fairly happy with the patient numbers," said Stasiuk. "We've been hearing only positive things from the community so far."

The hope is to make youth feel comfortable accessing health care, with the ultimate goal of young people reaching out for preventative health care instead of waiting until things become dire.

"Sam and Cam are younger, so hopefully the similarity in age makes them more approachable, especially on topics on the forefront for youth: contraception, unplanned pregnancy and STI (sexually transmitted infection) screening," said Ali.

Supplied

Cameron Sklar in the Whitecourt youth clinic

Stasiuk and Sklar are in Whitecourt as part of the Rural Integrated Community Clerkship, which sees third-year medical students placed in rural communities. This initiative was set up to help promote practicing medicine in underserved rural communities.

"It's a completely different way of learning in a clerkship; they're in the communities for nine months learning all the core disciplines of medicine in an integrated fashion and getting to know their patients and their communities," said Jill Konkin, associate dean of community engagement for the faculty. "This project speaks to how Cam and Sam have been able to look at a community and identify a need and do something to try and fill it."

Stasiuk and Sklar are in Whitecourt until May. At that point, Stasiuk says, the clinic will be re-evaluated and may be carried on by next year's medical students.

- with files from Erika Sherk (Alberta Health Services)

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New rural teaching program offers two degrees in five years

Christopher Thrall

For more than 100 years, the majority of the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus students have come from communities outside of Edmonton and Calgary, many of them looking to teach.

It makes good sense, then, that an initiative designed to help staff rural schools would start here. Beginning in September, Augustana students can enrol in a combined degree program that will earn a bachelor of science degree and a bachelor of education degree with a major in the sciences in five years and turn out high-school teachers ideally prepared to serve in rural communities.

"The combined degrees open an important connection to Education on our campus," says Augustana Dean Roger Epp. "We know that there is a strong interest in education among our students—as well as potential students—and that there is a strong need for science and math teachers in the rural communities from which many of them come."

Fern Snart, dean of the Faculty of Education, says that the opportunity will provide "new teachers who are ready to respond within a curriculum area that is in high demand in our province and beyond."

Students in the secondary-education route must choose major and minor teaching subjects that prepare them for school instruction. However, unlike other combined education programs, this new program permits students to have a major on the science side and a minor on either the arts or science side. Students will be able to select their major from six science categories including biology, general sciences or mathematics and physics, but they can minor in any of 16 subject areas—chemistry to music, English language arts to social studies.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until March 26

Murmurs : Hope Wells. This exhibition is the final visual presentation for the degree of master of fine arts in painting. Opening reception, Thursday, March 10, 2011, 7–10 p.m. Fine Arts Building Gallery.

Until March 28

Climate Trail – The Pathfinder Towards Global Solutions Display. Moving between Cameron Library (March 14–20) and Enterprise Square (March 21–28), this exhibit explains the causes of global warming, as well as its impacts on our planet. It describes how we can reduce carbon dioxide emissions and how Switzerland is addressing climate change.

Until June 24

The Last Best West: Glimpses of the Prairie Provinces from the Golden Age of Postcards. This exhibition of postcards is from the settlement and urbanization of the Canadian Northwest. The Peel's Prairie Provinces postcard collection contains thousands of fascinating and informative images, including personalized views of first houses, farms and family groups, as well as important events, disasters and buildings. Admission is free. Exhibition catalogues are available for $25. Noon–4:30 p.m. Lower level, South Rutherford Library.

March 14

The Department of Cell Biology Guest Speaker. Julie Brill, professor of molecular genetics at the University of Toronto, will be on hand to give a talk. 9:30–10:30 a.m. 628 Medical Sciences.

Occupation 101. A thought-provoking documentary film on the current and historical root causes of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, shown as part of Israeli Apartheid Week 2011. Noon–2 p.m., 135 Education Centre, North & South.

Canadian Institutes of Health Research – Institute of Aboriginal Peoples' Health. The IAPH fosters the advancement of a national health research agenda to improve and promote the health of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples in Canada, through research, knowledge translation and capacity building. Please join us to hear from three CIHR Institute scientific directors who will share where their institutes are headed. 2–3 p.m. 1-040 Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation. Register at http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=4922.

Department of Economics Macro Seminar. Florian Hoffman, law professor at the University of British Columbia, will be on hand to deliver the seminar, "An empirical model of life-cycle earnings and mobility dynamics." 3:30 p.m. 8-22 Tory Building.

IAW 2011 Keynote: International Solidarity and the Palestinian Freedom Struggle. Huwaida Arraf, co-founder of the International Solidarity Movement, will deliver keynote lecture of 2011 Israeli Apartheid Week. 7–9 p.m. 150 TELUS Centre.

National Film Board Presentation (in French). "Antonine Maillet: les possibles sont infinis." Ce film unique propose une rencontre avec cette écrivaine acadienne devenue célèbre grâce au succès de son personnage de La Sagouine, puis portée au sommet de la gloire avec l'obtention du prix Goncourt, en 1979. 7 p.m. Pavillon McMahon.

March 15

"SEE the research at work" seminar series presents: "Building sustainable forest soils following oilsands mining. Sylvie Quideau, professor in the Department of Renewable Resources, will be talking about how entire landscapes are reconstructed and soil-like profiles are built using salvaged soil materials and mining by-products after mining. Noon–1:30 p.m. 5-40. Alberta School of Business.

Alexander von Humboldt information session. The presentation will outline some of the unique funding opportunities and there will be Humboldt scholars in attendance to share their own experiences. 3–4:30 p.m. 1-65 Education Centre, North & South.

Queerness and Occupation: What's the Connection? This informal workshop features Robert Nichols, professor in the Department of Political Science. 6–8 p.m. 165 Education Centre, North & South.

Poets Against Apartheid—A Night of Rouge Poetry. This night will leave you inspired to share the stories of struggle with others and to be part of the growing movement against the injustice of apartheid in Palestine. 9–11 p.m. Aberhart Centre.

March 15 & 17

Child Study Centre – Jr. Kindergarten (March 15) and K-6 Garneau Open House (March 17). Applications for the Garneau School will be accepted during the evening. If you are considering submitting an application, please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate. 6:30–8 p.m.

March 16

"The Economics of Happiness." This documentary is about the worldwide movement for localization. The film will be followed by a Q-and-A session with filmmaker Helena Norberg-Hodge. 7 p.m. 1 430 Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science (phase 2).

The Season of Revolt: New Arab Uprisings and Implications for Apartheid. What do recent developments in the Middle East and North Africa mean for Israel and for Palestinians? 7–9 p.m. 236/238 TELUS Centre.

March 17

The Apartheid of Displacement: Voices from the Palestinian Diaspora. Since 1948, Palestinians have become one of the largest refugee populations in the world. Come listen to the stories of Palestinian refugees who now reside in Edmonton, as they share their experiences of fleeing their homes and living in exile. 7–9 p.m. 1-5 Alberta School of Business.

March 18

On Respecting Persons in End-of-Life Care. Noon–12:45 p.m. Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre, University of Alberta Hospital.

Academic Freedom and the Palestinian Solidarity Movement: Making the Connections. Academics who have been active in Palestine solidarity work will address efforts to suppress dissent on university campuses and the role and responsibility of academics and scholars in this regard. 1–3 p.m. 165 Education Centre, North & South.

March 20–26

Earth Hour 2011. On March 26, 2011 at 8:30 p.m. local time the lights will go out. Each year for one hour citizens and businesses across the world are invited to turn out their lights and power down electronics and appliances to acknowledge climate change and the impacts it has on our planet and our people. This year, the University of Alberta Office of Sustainability and WWF Canada will celebrate with multiple exciting events in the days leading up to and surrounding Earth Hour. Details posted on the Office of Sustainability website as they become available. sustainability.ualberta.ca

March 21–27

Vocal Arts Week. For more information go to www.music.ualberta.ca.

March 21

The Department of Cell Biology Guest Speaker. Leonard Neckers, urologic oncology researcher at the National Cancer Institute, will give a talk entitled "Targeting the molecular chaperone Hsp90 for cancer therapy: What does the biology tell us?" 9:30–10:30 a.m. 628 Medical Sciences.

2011 RU Lemieux Lecture. Brett Finlay, professor in biochemistry and molecular biology and microbiology and immunology at the University of British Columbia, is this year's Lemieux Lecturer. 4 p.m. E1 001 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC).

Winspear 4 Choral Concert. 8 p.m.

March 22

Celebration of Research and Innovation. The U of A's third annual Celebration of Research & Innovation salutes our outstanding academic staff, post-doctoral fellows, graduate students, undergraduate students and support staff. 3 p.m. Myer Horowitz Theatre Students' Union Building.

Aboriginal Student and Employer Mixer. This is an opportunity for employers to recruit some of the 800 Aboriginal students who are studying in a variety of disciplines at the U of A. 4–6 p.m. Aboriginal Student Services Centre (2-400 SUB) Students' Union Building.

March 23

Department of Economics Micro Seminar. Marcel Boyer, professor at the Université de Montréal, will be delivering the talk "Alleviating co-ordination problems and regulatory constraints through financial risk management." 3:30 p.m. 8-22 Tory.

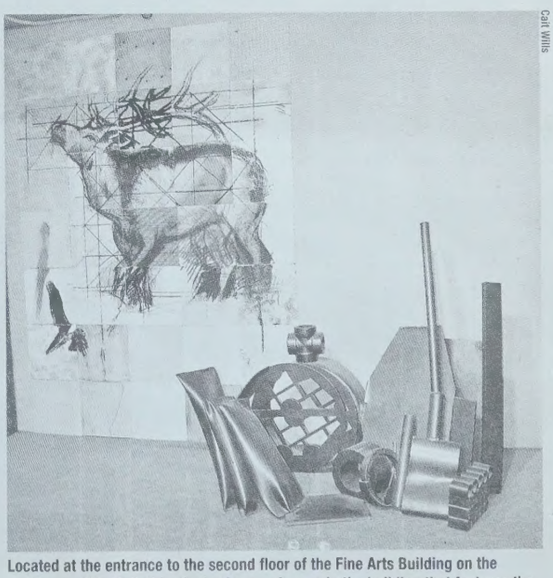
Educated Palate – Gourmet Tastings with d'Lish. With the assistance of several U of A alumni, we will tap into Edmonton's unique food scene. At d'Lish, an urban wine bar, taste a variety of wine and beer and pair with cheeses and chacuterie meats. 6:30–9:30 p.m. 10418 124 Street. $25 per person.

March 24

Picard Lecture in Health Law. "The Power, demands and limits of science: A cautionary tale for law and policy makers, health care professionals and the public," delivered by James Evans, clinical professor at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. RSVP hli@law.ualberta.ca, noon, 231/237 Law Centre.

Facing Uncertainty: Who is destined for Alzheimer's disease? Margaret Lock, professor of Department of Social Studies of Medicine at McGill University. 3:30–6 p.m. E1 003 ETLC.

Pedway gallery



Carl Willis

Located at the entrance to the second floor of the Fine Arts Building on the pedway to HUB Mall, this display is one of many in the building that features the work of U of A fine-arts students.

laurels

U of A Industrial Design Alum **Alex Cherniavsky** was part of Robert Stromberg and Karen O'Hara-led team that won an art direction Oscar for their work in the movie Alice in Wonderland at the 2011 Academy Awards. Cherniavsky was part of the team that won in the category of art direction at the 2010 Academy Awards for the movie Avatar.

Gavin Oudit, cardiology professor in the Department of Medicine, has received the Distinguished Clinician Scientist Award from the Heart and Stroke Foundation, as well as the McDonald Scholarhip and the 2010 Pfizer Cardiovascular Award.

Professors **Patricia Boechler** and **Mike Carbonaro** are the recipients of the Faculty of Education 2011 Technology Teaching Award. Their course "Ed It 486, Interactive Multimedia: Teaching and Learning with Video Games, A Constructivist Approach" was lauded as an outstanding exemplar of innovative pedagogical use of technology in the classroom. Their work serves to push teachers and learners to think carefully about how the learning process and cognitive skill development relate to each other. A presentation of the course will be showcased at the Technology Teaching and Research Fair on March 25.

THE LAST BEST WEST

Glimpses of the Prairie provinces from the Golden Age of postcards

Bruce Peel Special Collections Library, Rutherford South
March 3 to June 24

An exhibition of postcards from the settlement and urbanization of the Canadian Northwest, the Peel's Prairie Provinces Postcard collection contains thousands of fascinating and infomrative images, including personalized views of the first houses, farms and family groups, as well as important events, disasters and buildings.

the BackPage

KEVAN WARNER
UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
108 BARD
5

folio
University of Alberta

Page 3
Justice for all
Campus residences to try restorative justice

Page 4
University 101
The U of A's judiciary

Page 7
Staff Spotlight
In support of athletes

Volume 48 Issue 14 | March 25, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Armour part of UN delegation on status of women

Michael Brown

Margaret-Ann Armour, University of Alberta associate dean of science (diverstiy) and champion of women in science, engineering and technology, was the only academic named to the Canadian delegation that attended the 55th session of the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations headquarters in New York earlier this year. The commission brings together representatives of member states to evaluate progress on gender equality while identifying challenges, setting global standards and formulating concrete policies to promote gender equality and advancement of women worldwide.

Margaret-Ann Armour

The meeting of the commission, held over 10 days starting Feb. 22, discussed such themes as access and participation of women and girls in education, training, science and technology, including promoting of women's equal access to full employment and decent work, and the elimination of all forms of discrimination against the girl child.

"Our government is very keen in having more initiatives in encouraging women and girls in science and technology, and then into leadership positions," said Armour, president of the Canadian Centre for Women in Science, Engineering, Trades and Technology, or WinSETT Centre. "Canada is past the stage where we have to worry about education of women and girls; for me, what was an amazing experience was listening to a number of developing countries talking about what they were going to do in a public forum."

Continued on page 3

The right note

Richard Siemens

The Augustana Choir performed at the Myer Horowitz Theatre March 22 as part of the Celebration of Research and Innovation.

Babiuk named as VP (research) for a second term

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta's Board of Governors has reappointed Lorne Babiuk as vice-president (research) for a second five-year term, effective July 1, 2012.

"I feel very blessed with being part of what I consider to be one of the best administrative teams in the country," said Babiuk. "I think that I have been able to achieve some important things in my first term and I would like to complete them and also start some new things."

Lorne Babiuk

Babiuk joined the U of A in July 2007 as vice-president (research), and in that role has been instrumental in leading the university in a number of new initiatives. Some of Babiuk's successes include: guiding the Canada Excellence Research Chairs applications, which resulted in four new chairs (out of 19 nationwide), each worth $10 million over seven years; increasing the funding available for the President's Grants for the Creative and Performing Arts from the Killam Research Fund; the launch of the Helmholtz-Alberta Initiative, a major research partnership between the U of A and German researchers to work on mutual areas of interest such as energy and the environment; and the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology, a cutting-edge research centre housing some of the very best researchers in the field.

"With his experience as a top international researcher, Lorne has made a significant impact on our research culture during his time as vice-president (research)," said President Indira Samarasekera, who points to Babiuk's role in helping the U of A accrue $507.6 million in annual research funding, the second highest total among all universities in Canada. "He has been instrumental in advancing the U of A's national and international reputation as one of Canada's leading research universities."

Babiuk, whose duties as vice-president (research) also include chair of the board of directors for TEC Edmonton, counts the university's progress on technology commercialization with TEC Edmonton as a major achievement. Other notable achievements include: the establishment of the annual SSHRC lecture and celebration of SSHRC activities; the feedback provided by the 2010 Tri-Council monitoring review of the university's research administration practices; the role his office has played in improving the services it provides to researchers, and in nurturing a culture of research celebration.

"Our office has been working hard to encourage people to nominate their colleagues for awards, to develop a system where we are actually helping review awards before they are submitted, and to help celebrate the research awards in a number of ways, including hosting our annual Celebration of Research and Innovation," said Babiuk. "Research has become more a state of mind in a sense that we should be continually acknowledging our colleagues for how good they are."

Looking ahead, Babiuk noted that a goal of the new Academic Plan, *Dare to Deliver: 2011-2015*, is to expand linkages among all faculties as they address large societal issues. Babiuk looks forward to having faculties identify their areas for development and then working with them to facilitate these aspirations.

"For example, water has been identified by the university as an important initiative," said Babiuk. "We have a large number of people working on water, but my goal is to begin to combine the intellectual power of various faculties to be able to make a significant impact in the area of water." For example, the Faculty of Arts is holding a major conference on water this year, which may be an opportunity to build a large, interdisciplinary water institute at the U of A.

"With water, for instance, you can look at the politics surrounding it; you can also look at the social-economic, cultural, legal and educational aspects of water. It is my desire that faculties identify areas in which they want to build leading research initiatives, and the Vice-President (Research) Office is here to assist them in doing so."

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folio

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

The University of Alberta maintains a database of all alumni. This database is used to send you news about the U of A, including folio and *New Trail*, invitations to special events and requests for support. On Sept. 1, 1999, post-secondary institutions were required to comply with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation of the province of Alberta. In accordance with this legislation, please respond to one of the following options:

- ❑ Please keep my name, or
- ❑ Remove my name from the folio list.

Name _____
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No response means the University of Alberta assumes an individual wishes to remain on the mailing list.

U of A's first Comprehensive Institutional Plan approved

Folio staff

A new document that outlines the University of Alberta's short- and long-term plans, goals and resource needs was approved by the university's board of governors March 18.

The U of A's first Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP) replaces previous documents reviewed or approved by various governance committees including the Access Plan, Institutional Research Plan, University Plan, Capital Plan and Budget.

This year, the province's Ministry of Advanced Education and Technology asked Alberta's post-secondary institutions to produce a Comprehensive Institutional Plan that incorporates elements of those previous documents into one comprehensive document.

The CIP was written in support of the university's vision and mission as outlined in *Dare to Discover* and the academic plan, *Dare to Deliver*. The document points out that the university plays a critical role in contributing to the economic growth and diversification of the province, and states that more graduate students and highly educated graduates are necessary if the province is to compete in the global economy.

And, although the CIP was produced at a time of limited provincial resources, the university warns that, without enhanced and ongoing investment, the U of A will lose the competitive gains made in the early 2000s and begin to falter and inevitably fail to meet society's needs.

"The U of A must receive annual operating grant increases of at least four per cent beginning as soon as possible in order to maintain the high quality established through investment over the past decade—and we request a commitment of three years to assist in planning," the CIP states, while reaffirming the university's significant impact on the regional economy as the fourth largest employer in the province.

> The [Comprehensive Institutional Plan]points out that the university plays a critical role in contributing to the economic growth and diversification of the province, and states that more graduate students and highly educated graduates are necessary if the province is to compete in the global economy.

The measures planned by the university align with the four cornerstones contained in *Dare to Discover*: talented people; learning, discovery and citizenship; connecting communities, and transformative organization and support.

Some of the academic highlights include stressing the urgency of increasing participation in post-secondary education for Albertans, the need to increase access and engagement for Aboriginal and rural students and a need to increase the number of international students.

The document also makes a funding request for 500 additional professors, along with the resources to support them, and says the university strives for ratios of 1:3 graduate to undergraduate students, 1:4 professor to graduate and 1:16 professor to general population, while focusing on the broad themes of quality, learning environment, student experience and engagement, innovative programming; connections and collaborations.

Research emphasis is placed on having an internationally recognized, public research/teaching university that has recognizable impact and excellence in a diverse set of areas across the entire academy with three broad goals across the themes of diversification of excellence and internationalization. The document highlights a need for $22 million in base dollars to replace the research capacity associated with the AHFMR transition at the U of A and states that the university will globalize research activities by leveraging and extending its international consortia.

In reference to the 2011–2012 budget year, the document states that the university is projecting a modest excess of revenue over expenses of $1.9 million in its consolidated budget and an operating budget deficit of $4.9 million. In last year's budget, the university took steps to minimize the effects of a zero per cent increase on its base operating grant through initiatives to enhance program revenues, slow the rate of expenditures, and achieve administrative efficiencies. The cumulative effect of consecutive zero per cent funding increases to the operating grant has already resulted in substantial budget reductions and reallocations. The CIP outlines that further budget adjustments will be required in 2011–12.

The content of the Capital Plan section of the CIP states that, over the past decade, the university has been able to accomplish a great deal thanks to significant funding, including for the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology, the Katz Group Centre for Pharmacy and Health, the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science and the Edmonton Clinic Health Academy. It also says that deferred maintenance is now $987 million, and that, in this climate, focus will be on repurposing and renewal needs, while continuing to seek envelope funding for preliminary planning of critical projects so we can begin construction as soon as the resources are available.

University responds to the federal budget

Folio staff

University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera says the federal budget announced March 22 is good news for Canada's post-secondary institutions and sends a clear signal that the government is keeping its eye on the strategic goal of building a healthy and globally competitive economy with a strong focus on innovation.

Samarasekera says the budget does three key things for post-secondary by reaffirming the government's commitment to talent, research and internationalization.

"This budget maintains momentum, particularly through an increase in funding to the three granting councils. Secondly, the budget builds excellence—as demonstrated by an additional 10 Canada Excellence Research Chairs. And with this budget, the government is supporting the goal of reaching the world, of promoting Canada's international brand to both attract the very best students to this country and to send our students abroad for international experience—this is particularly evident in the budget's allocation of $12 million for a competition to select a Canada-India Research Centre of Excellence."

Highlights of the budget include $37 million in new funding per year to support the three federal research granting councils, an additional $10 million per year for the Indirect Costs of Research program, an investment of $53.5 million over five years to support the creation of 10 new Canada Excellence Research Chairs, an additional $35 million over five years to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada to support climate and atmospheric research, $60 million over three years to promote increased student enrolment in key disciplines related to the digital economy and $10 million over two years to develop and implement an international education strategy to help attract world-class talent.

Researchers up to WUN's Global Challenge

Michael Davies-Venn

Researchers from the University of Alberta have won awards from an international research organization that will enable them to work with colleagues around the globe to address issues with global ramifications.

Ian Mann

Proposals by U of A professors Ian Mann and Nora Keating have been granted funding by Worldwide Universities Network as part of the network's Global Challenge.

With a long tradition of excellence understanding the dynamics of outer space around the Earth, Mann and his U of A colleagues are teaming up with experts from the United Kingdom and Norway to determine the impact of space radiation on climate change.

"There's a strong human impact on climate change, and carbon dioxide is certainly the major contributor," Mann said. "Nonetheless, we know that there are other processes that can cause some smaller changes to the climatic system.

"One of the things we are interested in is trying to understand what impact space radiation might have on the much lower altitude regions of space—the neutral atmosphere—and whether it can even have some role in some climate processes in changing some of the atmospheric dynamics."

According to Mann, at the beginning of the space race more than a half century ago, an accidental discovery revealed that near-Earth space is filled with highly relativistic radiation. This radiation, which forms the so-called Van Allen radiation belts, can be scattered into the Earth's atmosphere, but no one knows what role this radiation may play in influencing climate change.

Mann cautions that any outcome would not do away with the explanation of the contribution of carbon dioxide on global warming, partly because his focus is on higher altitudes, or a layer of the atmosphere 60–100 kilometres above ground. However, because there is a complex relationship between different layers of the atmosphere involving changes to chemistry and energy transfer, he says it's important to determine the impact of space radiation on the atmosphere.

"It is possible that current global climate systems are not capturing the impact of space radiation," said Mann. "If the global-climate models are to do a good job in predicting what goes on in the atmospheric system, then the elements that are used in making those predictions have to be very well described. The objective is to try to improve that system and make sure that the dynamics of the coupled atmospheric system are represented in the most realistic way possible."

Nora Keating, U of A human ecology researcher, won an award for a proposal that address the world's rising life expectancy.

"In Japan, 20 per cent of the population is over age 65, and that number is going up quickly," said Keating. "In places like China, much of sub-Saharan Africa and parts of South America, the proportion of old people is quite low, but in absolute terms, the numbers are immense."

Keating will use her award to launch the Global Social Initiative on Aging, which is designed to bring the world's leading experts on aging to the U of A to address some of the key welfare issues of older people.

"First we want to discuss and identify the main social issues affecting older people across the world," said Keating. "Then we want to figure out how to get into the attention of organizations such as the United Nations with this information. We want to change things so that the lives of older people are better. We have big goals. This is not just an academic undertaking."

Nora Keating

The WUN is a global alliance of 16 research-intensive universities drawn from the U.K., Europe, North America, China and Australia. Central to WUN's mission is the fostering of international collaborative research. In particular, WUN is committed to the development of interdisciplinary research collaborations addressing recognizable global challenges.

Process review task force looking for input

Michael Brown

A task force in search of University of Alberta administrative and operational processes that are overly cumbersome or inefficient has been struck and is looking for input.

The Administrative Innovation and Process Review task force, an initiative of the vice-president (finance and administration), is building on the work of previous initiatives that turned a critical eye inwards on university operations and administration in an effort to streamline activities.

"We want to examine new, efficient ways to reduce administrative burden wherever possible," said Mary Persson, associate vice-president (audit and analysis) and task force co-chair.

Persson says the task force will focus on areas that will optimize the operational efficiency of a unit or process, enhance customer service, present new opportunities for cost containment and create opportunities for revenue enhancement.

"The ultimate goal of this review is to look for ways to manage the operations of the U of A better and more efficiently," she said. "Whether big or small, we are hoping to find innovative ideas that can help transform our administrative processes."

For example, the idea for moving the U of A to a centralized, web-based email system came out of a previous review, as did strategic sourcing for suppliers to save money and bringing general council in-house to save on legal fees.

"We want to help reduce the often heavy administrative burden on faculty and staff so that people can spend more time on their primary responsibilities," she said.

Individuals can submit ideas through the task force website at www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/vpfinance/taskforce.cfm, or via email at admin.ideas@ualberta.ca.

Vested communities the aim of new restorative justice policy

Michael Brown

Starting next September, the University of Alberta will have a new policy to help create a better sense of community across its campuses' residences.

The Office of the Dean of Students, the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Residence Services are rolling out a new Residence Community Standards policy that will introduce a restorative justice model as the primary means of managing residence behaviour, which could include common community issues like excessive noise, cleaning concerns, property damage or drunkenness, although the policy will preclude safety issues that need immediate attention.

"A lot of universities are thinking of going in the direction of restorative justice, but not a lot have so far in Canada," said Deborah Eerkes, director of the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. "We're kind of on the beginning of this big trend."

In spring 2009, Eerkes was assigned the task of reviewing the discipline system in Residence Services and rewriting the Community Standards. She says the review was sparked by a number of long-standing issues, primarily but not exclusively related to ongoing behavioural issues in residence.

"Part of the problem was that the old policy was unwieldy and getting more and more difficult to administer," said Eerkes. "It didn't seem to be improving things all that much—we still have people continuing to repeat offend."

Eerkes says research shows that rates of recidivism go down in restorative justice programs because the accused doesn't regard that behaviour as just the breaking of a rule, but, rather, a harming of the community.

She explains that within a restorative justice model, the harmed party, or parties, and the offender, or offenders, meet in a mediated setting to decide what the harm is and how the damage can be repaired to everyone's satisfaction.

"You can't always back the clock up, but you can take steps towards mending the harm done," said Eerkes. "This is a real departure from the way we do things now, where the person harmed gets no say whatsoever."

More than simply enforcing the rules, however, Eerkes says the hope here is also that a new policy will create an environment where people are more invested in their own community and understand the consequences of their actions on others.

"This policy is such a change in mindset," said Eerkes. "Communicating the new process and making sure students get it and want to participate—because it is an opt-in system—is going to be a huge task."

She adds that training staff and facilitators who mediate situations is another big task between now and Sept. 1, when the policy goes into effect. To help with the transition, Eerkes says an implementation committee already struck will be joined by a review committee in order to help iron out difficulties after both the first and second years of the program.

> "You can't always back the clock up, but you can take steps towards mending the harm done."
>
> Deborah Eerkes

"We hope this policy empowers residents to engage in community building and conflict resolution through the restorative process, and allows Residence Life staff to focus on the positive rather than simply enforcing rules," said Eerkes.

Kidney removal in cancer patients linked to poorer health

Raquel Maurier

Patients with kidney cancer who had their entire organ removed are more likely to have more renal complications and poorer health after surgery, compared to those who had only part of their kidney removed, a University of Alberta study has shown.

Ronald Moore, a professor in the Department of Surgery in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, is a senior scholar funded by Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions and is holder of the Mr. Lube Chair in Uro-Oncology; he, Scott Klarenbach, an Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions investigator and nephrology professor, and Branko Braam, a nephrology professor and a Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada new investigator, studied 1,151 kidney cancer cases in Alberta.

The researchers, who were also supported by the Alberta Health Services Northern Alberta Renal Program, reviewed patient outcomes from 2002 to 2007 via a provincial database.

They found that 80 per cent of patients underwent surgery to have their entire kidney removed as a way to treat their kidney cancer.

Furthermore, patients who had their entire kidney removed were more likely to develop chronic kidney disease and kidney failure (requiring treatment with dialysis), both of which are serious, chronic medical disorders. Less than three years post-surgery, the number of patients who had renal complications was 12.5 per cent for those who had their whole kidney removed, compared to seven per cent for those who only underwent partial kidney removal. This is an important difference in outcomes noted in their research results which were recently published in the *European Journal of Oncology*.

What is troubling, says the team, is that only 20 per cent of kidney cancer patients in Alberta and across North America are undergoing partial kidney removal surgery when they are diagnosed early. That number needs to be much higher, especially in light of these findings that build on previous research.

"It is important for patients and health-care providers in Alberta and Canada to know this information, so patients can live longer post-surgery and have a better quality of life with fewer health complications," says Moore. "There could also be overall health-care cost savings because patients wouldn't have as many complications afterwards."

Armour at the UN

continued from page 1

Rona Ambrose, federal minister of state for [the] status of women, headed the delegation made up of federal and provincial government representatives as well as leaders of non-governmental organizations.

Canada has participated in the UNCSW since its creation in 1947, and is a key leader in the work of advancing gender equality. Along with the priority themes, Armour, who says her highlight of the week came when she was asked to address the member states on behalf of Canada, said the Canadian delegation took the opportunity to highlight the need to end all forms of violence against women and girls, including honour-motivated violence.

"The fact that [countries with gender inequality] were talking about equality in a public forum with all the other countries listening, I thought was very encouraging," said Armour, adding she knows implementation is easier said than done. "Many countries are still trying to provide even elementary education for girls in rural areas where there are no schools, so it was a good start."

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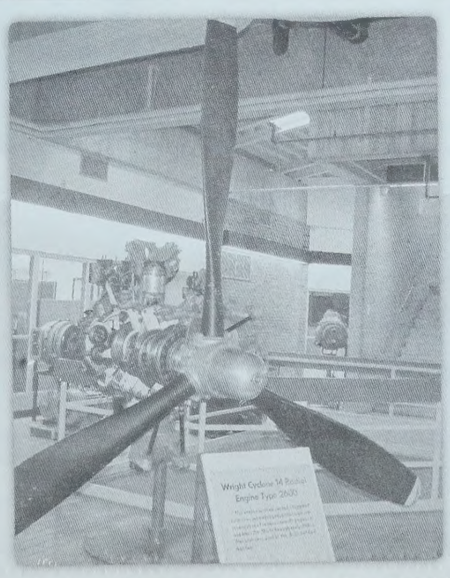
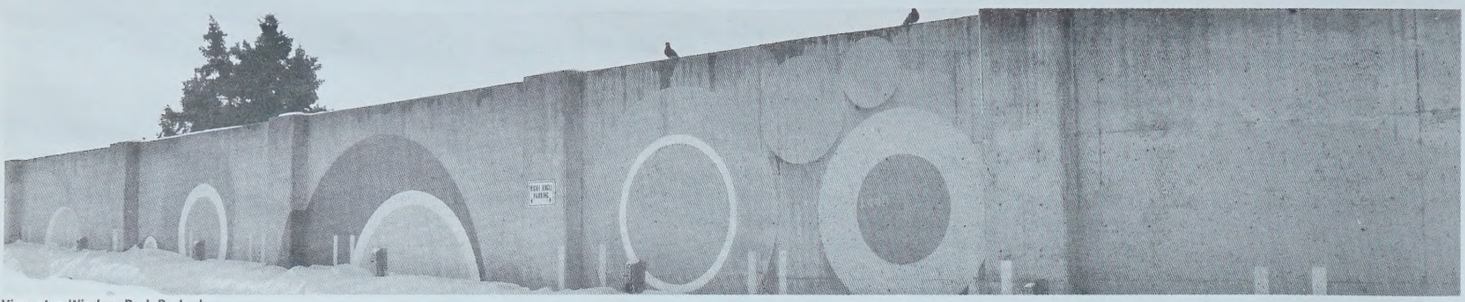
Are You a Winner?



Congratulations to Heather Green, whose name was drawn as part of folio's March 11 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Green correctly identified the photo in question as an ornament found atop Pembina Hall. For her correct answer, Green has won a copy of "City of Love & Revolution: Vancouver in the Sixties," by U of A history professor Lawrence Aronsen.

Up for grabs this week is a University of Alberta-issued stainless-steel coffee mug, as well as a U of A-emblazoned bookmark. To win, simply email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, April 1, and you will be entered into the draw.



Carl Willis

View atop Windsor Park Parkade.

Fairness and integrity lie at the heart of the university's judicial branch

University 101

The University of Alberta can be a complicated entity with many moving parts. University 101 exists to assist the campus community in better understanding who does what and how things get done at the U of A. This week's feature on the university's judicial branch is the first in a two-part series.

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta's judiciary exists to ensure that fairness and integrity prevails in all disputes.

Where students are concerned, the Post-Secondary Learning Act gives the General Faculties Council responsibility over academic affairs and general supervision of student affairs, including authority concerning student discipline.

Thus, the GFC has developed the Code of Student Behaviour to guide the university in dealing with both academic and non-academic offences.

For students whose grievance is in regard to academic standing—such as a conflict with a grade, expulsion from their program or denial of graduation or promotion, their appeal does not fall under the Code of Student Behaviour, but—like other academic issues—allows for the first right of appeal at the faculty level, with a final level of appeal to the General Faculties Council's Academic Appeals Committee.

The process for determining disciplinary measures in academic offences, including plagiarism, cheating, misuse of confidential materials and research and scholarship misconduct, begins at the faculty level.

The dean is charged with discipline, but typically delegates that duty to an associated dean who will hear the case and decide on it.

"The severity of the sanctions imposed determines how the case moves through the system," said Chris Hackett, discipline officer with the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. "The dean of the faculty can impose under their own authority a sanction up to and including outright failure of a course and a notation on the student's transcript indicating that the grade was set for disciplinary reasons."

Hackett says that, if a faculty feels the transgression in question is worthy of one of the severe sanctions—such as suspension, expulsion or rescission of the degree, to name a few—the decision moves to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs.

"We never actually vary decisions made by the faculty," said Hackett. "In academic misconduct cases, we make the decision on the severe sanction only. If we find—on balance of probabilities—that the student did not commit the offence, only then would we dismiss the charge and thus, the sanctions imposed by the dean."

Non-academic offences are subject to a similar process, except the investigating party is U of A Protective Services, which recommends what it believes to be a fitting disciplinary action.

Regardless of the severity of the offence that contravened the Code of Student Behaviour, and whether it falls under the academic or non-academic process, if the student disagrees with the outcome, they have a last right of appeal with the University Appeal Board. The UAB is a committee constituted by GFC that hears appeals of discipline decisions made by both the faculties and OSJA.

In appealing a charge of academic misconduct, if the decision is within the faculty's parameters and is not referred for a severe sanction, the appeal skips past the OSJA and goes straight to the appeal board.

However, if the appeal pertains to a severe sanction, and if the student's case has gone through the OSJA and has been upheld, their case will be heard by the UAB. These committees that sit in judgment of academic offences are made up of a faculty member who serves as chair, and two student members.

"The University Appeals Board has pretty broad powers and can determine if an offence has been committed and then vary, confirm or quash the original decision," said Iva Spence, the UAB appeals coordinator. She says that in addition to hearing cases under the Code of Student Behaviour, the UAB also hears appeals from applicants who are thought to have, for instance, misrepresented facts in an application to the Office of the Registrar and have been charged under the Code of Applicant Behaviour.

"The purpose of this process is to make sure students have a final right of appeal within the university," said Spence. "That goes for any decision made as far as academic standing, disciplinary matters or interventions in practicum placements."

Students in professional faculties overseeing students who have been denied placement in a program or a practicum, or have been removed from a placement, have a right to appeal to the Faculty Practice Review Committee. If they're not satisfied with the decision, Spence says they can appeal to the GFC Practice Review Board, which is made up of five members: two faculty, one practitioner and two students.

"At the last level of appeal at the university, we really want to make sure we're following to the letter of the law of our own policies and procedures, and that we are being fair to both parties in terms of how the hearing is conducted and the way the information is brought forward," said Spence.

> "The purpose of this process is to make sure students have a final right of appeal within the university. That goes for any decision made as far as academic standing, disciplinary matters or interventions in practicum placements."
>
> Iva Spence

Spring ushers in new academic plan

Carl Amrhein, provost and VP (academic) & Lorne Babiuk, VP (research)

On March 21 members of General Faculties Council approved *Dare to Deliver 2011–2015, the University of Alberta's Academic Plan.*

Receiving a strong endorsement from representatives of the academic professional officers, the Students' Union and the Graduate Students Association, *Dare to Deliver* passed with near-unanimous support (86 in favour, two abstentions, one opposed). The academic plan is the academy's response to the vision set out in *Dare to Discover*, and thus articulates the academic goals and aspirations for the U of A over the next four years. Building on four cornerstones—talented people, learning, discovery and citizenship, connecting communities and transformational organization and support—*Dare to Deliver* will "allow us to refocus on and consolidate our core strengths in teaching and research, reinvigorating our commitment to delivering the kind of extraordinary student experience associated with a great university."

Over the past year, the academic plan went through many drafts and iterations. We received an enormous amount of feedback and advice from a wide array of individuals, representing the entire campus community. This has truly been a team effort, and we would like to thank everyone who committed their time, energy and effort in making the academic plan a reality. Once again, the campus community has illustrated that talented, committed people are the driving force behind the University of Alberta's success as a post-secondary institution.

A complete version of the entire academic plan can be found at the provost's website at https://provost.sitecore.ualberta.ca/~/media/University%20of%20Alberta/Administration/Office%20of%20the%20Vice-Provost/Provost/Documents/Academic%20Plan/AcademicPlan.pdf.

Clearing up some myths about philanthropy

the open door

O'Neil Outar, chief development officer

I recently celebrated my six-month anniversary at the University of Alberta. The experience of adjusting to Canada, Edmonton and the university has been intense but immensely fun.

I spent much of the first semester speaking with students, faculty, administrators, alumni and members of the community to hear perspectives on the university and ideas on philanthropy and fundraising. Along the way I heard a few common myths that I hope to clarify. In no particular order:

O'Neil Outar

Myth: Canadians are not as charitable as Americans.

Truth: According to the Charities Aid Foundation World Giving Index 2010,

Canada ranks third, three places ahead of the United States. Although the U.S. market is larger (after adjustment for population size), a higher percentage of Canadians make gifts to charities and have given their time.

Myth: People are more likely to give to organizations.

Truth: Regardless of whether the donor is an organization (industry or foundation) or an individual, people give to people. For this reason, it is important to cultivate personal relationships with those who have or control wealth.

While organizations may publicly have a defined pool of funds for particular projects, building personal relationships can often be very helpful in advancing projects outside of the traditional scope of funding.

Myth: The most important quality of a fundraiser is being a "people" person.

Truth: My experience of those who are successful fundraisers is that they are active listeners, intellectually curious, well-read, have a high level of energy and are themselves interesting.

Myth: Money goes to the area of greatest need.

Truth: Like most of us, donors of all kinds are attracted to leaders who have their confidence.

The people and programs that are best able to clearly articulate the potential impact of the work and to describe the potential impact of the donor's gift often earn the donor's respect, support and, perhaps most important, their advocacy.

Myth: The donor is always right.

Truth: Sometimes. Donors are problem solvers. But they may come to the conversation with a particular set of biases or one perspective on the problem and appreciate hearing alternative views, engaging in debate and understanding how their gifts will be used to solve the problem they are passionate about. Donors are reassured to be investing in someone with whom they have a shared interest.

Some people say that one's life can be broken down into three parts: learning, earning and returning, with the latter being the phase in which the most significant gifts are made.

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Teaching the language of math

Richard Cairney

If teaching a subject well requires that you love to teach and are fascinated with the subject you're teaching, Karen Dow Ambtman has a lot going for her in her civil engineering analysis class.

The course teaches engineering students how to use math to describe an event, like a steel beam buckling under pressure, or contaminants leaking into a river, over time and space.

"We take a physical problem and describe it mathematically so we can solve it, understanding what the equation physically means—but solving it and understanding it are two different things," said Dow Ambtman, who opened her classroom doors to professors from across campus as part of the university's Festival of Teaching.

One teaching habit Dow Ambtman employs is simple: she draws pictures. In a class introducing partial differential equations, she draws a steel column buckling, alongside an equation used to describe it.

"So—what does it look like?" she asks the class. "What does this thing look like?"

"I draw a lot of pictures," she laughs. "I try to draw as much as possible, or to bring in props. Math is like a language, but engineers are physical people, so if you can show them what a buckling column looks like, what shape these things take, it's helpful."

Later in the course, she will actually have her students do the wave in the lecture theatre as a demonstration of how events cover time and space. She admits the exercise looked better when she had more students in the classroom—but at her request the department agreed to split the class in two because Dow Ambtman feels that, with subject matter this fundamental and complex, it is important that she have a good connection with students—that she can look around the class and read the faces of her students while she explains new concepts.

Her students attest to Dow Ambtman's teaching skills.

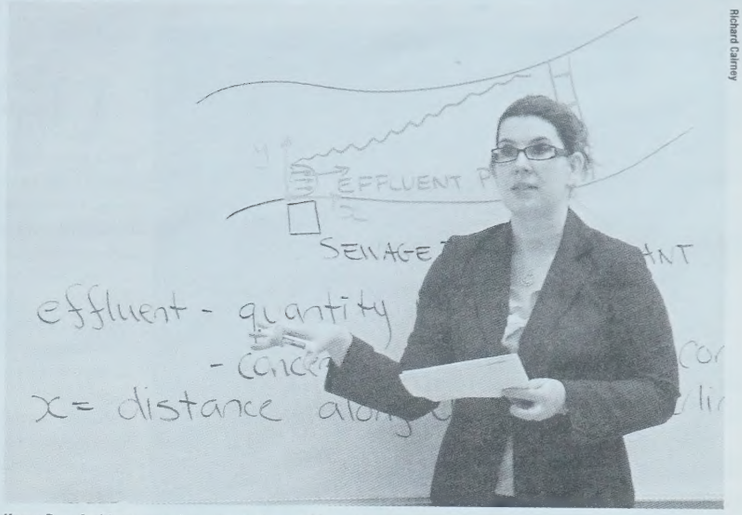
"This is one of the best attended classes we have," said Shauna Lesniewski, a third-year civil engineering student. "Her notes are by far the best of any professor—they are so clear and precise."

The subject matter could be dry, says student Jordan Betteridge, but Dow Ambtman's notes and teaching style are engaging.

She draws from her own background too, giving students real-life scenarios to work with. A faculty service officer in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, she earned her master's degree in water resources and conducted her PhD work at Edmonton's Cloverbar Wastewater Treatment Plant. So, in her class, Dow Ambtman draws a picture of a river, outlines a plume of effluent released into the river and talks about using math to model the scenario.

"I really enjoy taking things and breaking them down into steps," she explained.

Her reward is simple: "I teach because I love it," she said. "The reward is the students—I find that when you explain something complicated and you see the students get it—you see it in their eyes—it's hard to describe that feeling."



Richard Cairney

Karen Dow Ambtman uses her own background in water resources to explain new concepts to students.

U of A students embrace Go Google

Ileiren Poon

University of Alberta students were invited to "Go Google," as the university adopted the Google Apps for Education suite March 21, and go they did.

By press time, more than 11,000 students had made the switch.

"We are very happy with the rate at which students are adopting uAlberta Google Apps," said Simon Collier, one of the project leads. "In three days about one third of all students have made the switch."

The process has also made the U of A's 15 Google migration servers among the top-20 busiest machines on campus in terms of Internet traffic, out of more than 25,000 Internet connected devices on campus.

"This is a huge project that we need to roll out in a staged fashion. Step one is get all the students switched over correctly," said Jonathan Schaeffer, the university's vice-provost (information technology). "Students are Internet savvy; they're leading edge. In many ways, today's students are driving change."

More than 38,000 students—graduate and undergraduate—are the first to have the new suite available to them.

The U of A announced in December 2010 that it came to an agreement with Google to provide the university's faculty, staff and students the use of the free education edition of Google Apps. The agreement means the university community will begin using Google mail, calendaring, document preparation and other tools.

"Most students are already living and working in a mobile, web-enabled world," added Schaeffer. "Nearly all carry a cell phone and within the next five years almost all will carry a smart phone."

Those students will benefit from the switch, said Joshua LaForge, a fourth-year PhD student in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, who was part of the Google project's beta testing group.

"I think if you're a student who mainly uses the webmail interface or is doing a lot of communication from a mobile device, there's a huge benefit to this new system," he said. "The web interface for Gmail is just one of the best ones out there right now."

And Gmail allows for larger file attachments (25 megabytes) and more storage space (7.5 gigabytes) than the U of A's current webmail client, said LaForge. For those who just want their email to just be email, the switch to Google shouldn't cause too many ripples, he added.

"Functionally, the transition was really easy—seamless. Just point Outlook, or whatever you're using for email, at the new service and it just goes. You're probably not going to notice much of a change."

In the testing phase, many of those who were resistant to change ended up embracing it, said Collier.

"We found a lot of people who had initially planned to stay with their original email client ended up switching over to the web client after a while, because then it's a consistent experience no matter where you are," he said.

The U of A project team ran the project using the communication and collaboration tools in the Google Apps suite, to put the utilities to the test, said Collier. The team found that the Google video chat allowed for impromptu meetings that included team members at different U of A campuses, and even occasionally, different time zones. And Google Docs—the online documents and spreadsheets application—slashed the time needed for larger groups when editing documents.

"Instead of creating a document and passing it around—people making their edits and sending different versions of the document back to the first person—it can all happen at once. What might have taken us days is happening overnight," he said. "It doesn't matter where you are, and it doesn't matter what time it is. That's transformed the way we do work."

"This improves the email service for everyone at the U of A," said Schaeffer. "The move to Google Apps for Education and uAlberta Gmail offer tools for collaboration and communication that the university community will embrace and benefit from.

"We are aiming to be transformational, not just transitional, as we roll out new tools and technologies," said Schaeffer.

Opinion: Festival a real eye-opener

Billy Strean

Festival of Teaching

The Festival of Teaching, held the week of March 7–10, was a wonderful way to connect with colleagues, to learn and grow as an educator, to be inspired and reenergize, and to see that there are many people at the University of Alberta who honor and appreciate teaching and learning.

Billy Strean

A new addition to the festival this year was "festival classes," opening class sessions for observation. I had three rewarding and diverse visits to other professors' classes. First, I went to David Barnet's fourth-year drama class, where the students were deeply engaged in rehearsing for a production. As I wrote to David afterwards, it was truly an extraordinary experience to visit his class. I was extremely moved by the opportunity. There were so many aspects of what I observed that were exceptional. The level of community, teamwork, and interdependence was really like nothing I've seen in the context of a course before. David's level of focus and engagement on each piece of work was something to behold. Some parts may have been theatre conventions that I'm unfamiliar with, but the way in which he offered coaching, direction and cues, and how the students rolled with them, was stunning. It was really an honour and a privilege to be welcomed into their learning space.

The next morning I attended the much talked about Science 100, where Glen Loppnow was presenting a chemistry lecture. Granted, while the vast majority of the content loomed way above my understanding, there were many aspects of the session that were intriguing. I was able to see iClickers at work with music in the background, as well as a constant series of questions to probe students' understanding and learning, group work, and my favorite moment, when Glen gave the students feedback by banging his head against a metal cabinet.

My third visit was to David Ley's course that focuses on voice for actors. Although the standard direction for the festival was for visitors to simply observe, we were invited to participate in the extensive warm-up. He is clearly a virtuoso and brought an energizing spirit of play to the class. With only 12 students, it was a fairly intimate space, and the three of us visiting, felt fortunate to be welcomed. Much of the session involved one student presenting a monologue with a series of suggestions and coaching from the professor and the other students.

What was most striking about all three classes was the delightful connection that each professor had created with his students. Although the particular techniques and approaches catalyzed my consideration about new possibilities in my own courses, what was most powerful was the joy I felt witnessing the teaching moments. In retrospect, another key element was the importance of feedback in all of these disparate scenarios. Each instructor guided the students toward higher levels of performance. It was also evident that the engagement was not a linear process between the instructor and the class as a group; the students were actively contributing to each other. These three visits were a big part of fueling my tank for teaching.

It was quite a different experience being on the other side of the observation process. I was somewhat surprised and definitely intrigued watching myself beginning to develop evaluation apprehension about classroom visitors. Fortunately, at least a couple of outstanding teachers had difficulty finding or getting themselves to the Main Gym for my cricket lesson. Truth be told, my trepidation was at least in large part due to the impending visit of Colleen Skidmore, vice-provost (academic). She did attend, so my stress was not for naught. (I do hate to waste good stress.) As is often the case, anticipation was significantly worse than reality. Colleen Skidmore was entirely supportive in her comments and seemed to have enjoyed my session. Two days later, visitors were welcomed to a field hockey session in the Pavilion. I was able to debrief the session with Olenka Bilash, one of the finest teachers on our campus and an education scholar. Again my worries were quickly put to rest, as her analysis and comments were very affirming. I think I'm finally on my way to realizing that the acerbic voice in my head should be ignored and I should pay attention to the kind words of others.

Although the particular techniques and approaches catalyzed my consideration about new possibilities in my own courses, what was most powerful was the joy I felt witnessing the teaching moments.

Northern peatlands a misunderstood player in climate change

Debate still swirls over the impact of northern peatlands on climate (Supplied photo).

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta researchers have determined that while the influence of northern peatlands on the prehistoric record of climate change was overestimated, the vast northern wetlands must be watched closely as the planet grapples with its current global warming trend.

Alberto Reyes and Colin Cooke were PhD students in the U of A's Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences when they began their research into the response of Northern peatlands to climate change.

Northern peatlands, which are a boggy mixture of dead organic material and water, cover more than four million square kilometres. The largest northern peatlands occur in the subarctic regions of Canada and Russia. As peatlands grow they sequester carbon in the form of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. However, as old peat is buried and begins to decompose, it emits large amounts of methane, a potent greenhouse gas.

Reyes says the research began with the examination of radiocarbon dating of ancient peatlands. "We wanted to find out how peatlands first colonized Northern regions at the end of the last ice age," said Reyes. "This was a period of rapid global warming."

Atmospheric carbon dioxide and methane levels rose dramatically 10,000 years ago at the end of the last ice age. "In the past, scientists had suggested that northern peatlands were an important, if not the principal, source of the dramatic increase in atmospheric methane," said Cooke.

But the U of A team revealed the peatlands did not colonize the North until 500,000 years after the abrupt increases in atmospheric methane. "These results show that other methane sources must have contributed to the warming at the end of the last ice age," said Reyes.

The researchers point to tropical wetlands as the likely drivers of the initial rises in methane levels during that period. Today, tropical peatlands are the second-largest source of methane emissions to the atmosphere, after human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels and large-scale agriculture.

Reyes and Cooke say their work points to the miscalculation of the role of northern peatlands as an example of the complexities involved in studying huge and dynamic areas of the planet. Unraveling how northern regions will respond to future warming remains a critical research topic for Canada and other northern nations.

"Our future research will focus on northern peatlands as nature's own carbon-capture mechanism," said Reyes. "On the flipside of that role, we'll look at the peatlands as a major emitter of carbon in the form of methane gas."

The research was published online last month in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*.

Baikal Archaeological Project to undertake dig on Japanese islands

Jamie Hanlon

A longstanding anthropology project at the University of Alberta has recently received an unprecedented third Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada grant to continue studying northern, Holocene-period hunter-gatherers.

This new Major Collaborative Research Initiatives grant, worth $2.5 million over seven years, will allow researchers in the Baikal Archaeological Project to undertake a long-term dig in the Japanese Hokkaido island chain, one that will provide them with comparative data of the two areas. And as Andrzej Weber, Baikal's project director, explains, it will also fill in some significant gaps in the history of the Ainu, the indigenous people of this northern Japanese island chain.

"There's not a lot known about the Ainu people prior to the Japanese contact," said Weber. "We want to extend the history of the Ainu people as far back as possible and understand the history of the people a lot better. There's great potential for that."

Their focus will be on Rebun Island, in the northwestern part of the prefecture of Hokkaido. There, researchers have already identified two sites that they will use to gather archaeological evidence: one being a burial site from the late Jomon period (from 2,000 to 1,000 BC) and the other a shell midden (area where hunter-gatherers would consume their catches of shellfish) from the middle Jomon (3,000–2,000 BC) that is buried beneath a contemporary Japanese village.

"Both sites have been tested in the past so we know their archaeological potential," said Weber.

The project team will use the same processes and collection methodologies used at the Lake Baikal project site in Siberia—which focuses on studying archaeological, osteological, environmental, genetic and ethnographic data pertaining to the Middle Holocene hunter-gathers in that region—to gather and interpret the Japanese data. Despite the difference in distance, Weber notes that there are likely common elements in the life, lifestyle and migratory patterns of the peoples of these two regions.

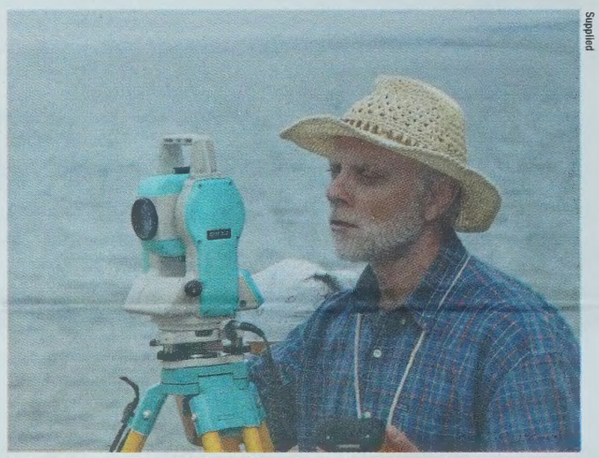
"There's a similarity of environment, of culture, history, of certain interactions with the climate that will make us understand what happened in both places a lot better," he said. "We are looking to see how both of these regions were situated within their own respective larger cultural and natural environments."

Some Baikal researchers will continue to work at the Russian site while their colleagues begin this new project in co-operation with Japanese researchers who will become part of the multi-national Baikal team. Weber says that the new seven-year funding will likely open up opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students to work alongside the researchers. Such an opportunity will carry on a Baikal fieldwork tradition that has seen its graduates move on to posts around the world.

"Students who get involved will be exposed to a large number of field-leading international scholars," he said. "It will be of huge benefit to them to function for a few years in such an environment. "

With their third consecutive SSHRC grant announced and ongoing project support from the U of A, Weber says that his team is poised to carry on research that will bear a "more visible, more profound" academic impact. He admits the plans are ambitious, and with such plans "one needs a little more time to implement all of the ideas." Combined with ongoing, developing relationships with other international archaeological groups doing similar research in the circumpolar north, this alliance will allow Baikal researchers to share the wealth of knowledge they will have collected from these sites, adding their expertise to a broader ranging field of study.

"By putting this comparative aspect of our research together, I think that we can make a lot stronger, meaningful and broader contribution to the field of Holocene hunter-gatherer research," said Weber.



Supplied

Andrzej Weber is part of a study that will look at ancient civilizations on the Hokkaido islands.

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Tree resin the key evidence of current and historic insect invasions

Supplied

(Above) A close up of resin clumps, or tubes, on tree trunk. (Bottom left) An ancient boring beetle captured in amber, or fossilized resin.

Brian Murphy

A University of Alberta-led research team has discovered that insects that bored into trees as long ago as 90 million years, or as recently as last summer, leave a calling card that is rich with information.

Research led by U of A paleontology graduate student Ryan McKellar has shown that the information is contained in the resin found within trees and on their bark. Resin is produced in large quantities by a tree when it's under attack by insects.

Normally, researchers trying to assess if a tree is infested with boring insects have sometimes had to rip patches of bark off sometimes healthy trees, but McKellar says that looking at the resin in and on a tree offers a far less invasive procedure. "Now forestry workers looking for the telltale signs of insect borings in tree trunks can just examine the resin that collects in clumps on the tree trunk."

An attack by boring beetles typically affects trees in two ways. The boring action damages the phloem layer just under the bark, which cuts off the passage of nutrients within the trunk. Also, beetles often introduce a fungus that spreads into the woody xylem tissue of the tree and starves the treetop of water.

"A side-effect of insect invasion and water stress is a reduction in the tree's ability to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere," said McKellar. "Carbon dioxide is necessary for life-sustaining photosynthesis."

As part of their research, McKellar and the team went looking for subatomic-sized isotopic evidence that indicates water stress in trees as a result of an insect attack. They discovered elevated levels of carbon-13 isotopes in the resin of living trees under insect attack and in the fossilized resin or amber produced by ancient trees that go back as far as the age of dinosaurs. Further, the group found evidence of boring beetles and the increased presence of carbon-13 within amber fossils dating back in the geological record to 90 million and 17 million years ago. The locations are as geographically removed as present-day New Jersey and the Dominican Republic.

McKellar says the New Jersey and Dominican Republic sites are two of the world's major amber deposits and the discovery will help researchers understand the history of insect infestations in trees.

"These findings suggest that large quantities of amber produced at those locations may have been produced by ancient infestations of boring beetles," said McKellar. "Mountain pine beetle infestations are the modern equivalent of massive prehistoric insect attacks."

McKellar's research was published March 23 in *Proceedings of the Royal Society: Biological Sciences.*

Engineers win for biomedical design

Mechanical engineering (biomedical) students won the innovative design award at the Western Engineering Competition and Canadian Engineering Competition, with their design for a craniostomy and ventriculostomy drill. (Photo: Richard Cairney)

Richard Cairney

A group of mechanical engineering (biomedical) students has won a national award for their innovative design of a device that could improve patient care in urgent medical cases.

Kenton Hamaluik, Andrew Kan, Jordan Leung and Allen Feng designed a craniostomy and ventriculostomy drill for Edmonton neurosurgeon Richard Fox, as an assignment for their Mechanical Engineering 460 senior design course. Earlier this year, the students took the design to the Western Engineering Competition and won the innovative design award there. Then, they won the national award for innovative design at the Canadian Engineering Competition in Montreal.

The team's design addresses specific challenges their client thought could be eliminated. Fox explained to the students that surgeons in operating rooms have access to power tools but in emergency rooms and at bedside, doctors use manual drills to perform craniostomy and ventriculostomy procedures. The problem with those drills, Fox told the students, has a lot to do with control of the drill bit.

Hand-cranked drills that resemble eggbeaters and goose-neck drills can present a problem with drilling direction and the bit itself sometimes "walks" across the surface rather than penetrating it. These drills also represent a risk to patients because there is no depth gauge.

"One of the main problems is that there isn't a safety depth stop to prevent what the surgeons call 'plunging'—uncontrolled drilling through the skull and into the brain," said Leung. "At the bedside and in the ER they are restricted to manual drills, and going to the operating room usually takes a lot of time," added Kan. "This is a time-sensitive issue so you what to get the procedure done as quickly as possible."

The design team solved that problem with a setting feature that only allows the drill bit to penetrate to pre-set depths. And the drill the students designed separates, giving doctors the choice of using a flat or an angled face and the ability to perform two procedures with one tool.

The four are now looking into patenting the device. And two of the team members, Leung and Feng, are now applying to medical schools. "The communication and critical-thinking skills developed throughout my engineering undergraduate experience will help in the field of medicine," said Leung. "The approach to patient care is also becoming more interdisciplinary. Thus, the teamwork skills gained through engineering will be important."

"The one thing that engineering has given me, above all else, is a different perspective," said Feng. "As an engineer, I think that I'll be able to see problems differently and create unique solutions to novel problems."

U of A athletes are the beneficiaries of a grounded manager

staff spotlight

Michael Brown

George Thomlison says varsity sports at the University of Alberta are as good as you will find anywhere, and he is willing to put his money where his mouth is.

Thomlison, manager of grounds, human resources and procurement with Buildings and Grounds Services, has gone beyond simply attending Golden Bears and Pandas sporting events by creating a pair of endowed scholarships earmarked for varsity athletes.

Originally, Thomlison, who has worked at the U of A since 1987, made a payroll contribution to general bursaries on campus for university athletes. Four years ago, he was selected as part of the ASSUA bargaining team, which comes with a funding allotment paid to the Office of Facilities and Operations to cover any expenses incurred while he was away from work.

"There wasn't a need to bring in a [replacement] for me when I wasn't working, so I asked Don Hickey, vice-president, (facilities and operations) if I could take that money and set up the scholarship for student athletes. He agreed, so I went ahead and did that."

Today, with the help of some donations from Thomlison's friends, the endowment now generates two $750 scholarships per year.

"As an athlete, I guess I'm partial to athletes," he said. "Some of the best hockey in Edmonton is played in the Claire Drake Arena. I go to a number of hockey games and I'm a regular at the football games, but Pandas rugby is my one true love. I have been affiliated with Pandas rugby since day one."

Thomlison's support for athletics doesn't end there. Entrusted with keeping the university grounds pristine, Thomlison needs 20 summer students to help his 12 full-time operators get the job done. In hiring those summer students, it's been his department's priority over last decade to hire university students and, if possible, hire university students who are also university athletes.

"Coaches will put forward the names of students who they know need summer jobs," said Thomlison. "If you're a university athlete, the time you would normally spend working during the year, you're spending either training for, recovering from, or participating in your sport.

"Those individuals don't have those opportunities as much as normal students during the year, so we try to help them that way."

This policy isn't completely altruistic, as Thomlison says his team has had good success hiring student athletes.

"They're used to being part of a team, so we find they work well together," he said.

Being an athlete himself—playing the gamut of sports growing up, and, as a grandfather of four, he still takes to the rugby pitch as a player and a coach—Thomlison says he likes the team effort his group puts forth to make this campus a gem of Edmonton.

"I like the culture; I like the fact that I can come to work and be surrounded by some great people," he said. "I also like the atmosphere on campus. In the summer time, I don't think there is a prettier place to be than right here on campus. We're close to the river valley. It's not like you're working downtown and you're in the middle of a concrete jungle, this is a pretty superb place to work."

Michael Brown

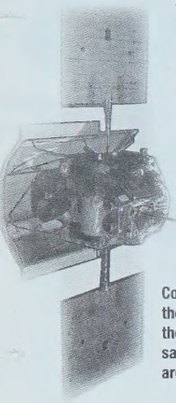
George Thomlison has created scholarships for two varsity athletes.

Researchers flying high about Messenger voyage

Brian Murphy

When news broke that NASA's Messenger spacecraft finally entered orbit around Mercury, no physics researchers could have been happier than the University of Alberta's Robert Rankin and Jan Paral.

Since the observation satellite launched from Earth in 2004, Rankin, a U of A physics professor, and Paral, a PhD student, have been involved with the mission. The two spent months building computer models of the atmosphere Messenger would encounter at Mercury.



Computer models created at the U of A correctly predicted the atmosphere the Messenger satellite would encounter around Mercury.

Rankin says their calculations were proven correct. "It took six years for Messenger to get in the vicinity of Mercury," said Rankin. "On the fly-bys and approach to the planet, instruments detected a heavy presence of sodium gas, just as we had modeled."

Although Rankin and Paral are not official NASA investigators on the Messenger mission, they plan to work closely with the agency's team assigned to analyzing Mercury's atmosphere.

Rankin says Mercury has puzzled researchers since the 1970's, the last time a satellite got close to the planet. In 1974, NASA's Mariner 10 detected a magnetic field around Mercury similar to Earth's. "We can't live without our magnetic field. It blocks lethal space radiation from reaching Earth, and Mercury's magnetic field plays a similar role," said Rankin.

Rankin says that's why it's vital that we understand the chemical composition of other planets.

It took enormous computer power for the U of A team to build atmospheric models for Mercury. Paral travelled to upstate New York and tapped into IBM's now-famous Watson laboratory. The Watson lab and its BlueGene supercomputers were recently featured in a human-versus-machine competition of general knowledge on the popular TV game show, *Jeopardy*. The computer won.

Paral says that computing power helped develop a detailed profile of the gases and chemicals surrounding a planet 154 million kilometres away from the reams of data gathered by earlier observational space satellites.

"I look at Mercury as a laboratory for studying Earth," said Paral. "Mercury is smaller and less complicated, but we can look at all of its components—the magnetic field, its gravity and even its liquid core—to discover new things about our planet."

Pictures supplied by NASA

Rankin says the next few years will be exciting for him and Paral.

"It's expected that Messenger will be feeding back data until sometime next year," said Rankin. "We hope to be involved all the way along in figuring out Mercury's secrets."

Medicine grads electing for a family practice

Quinn Phillips

For the first time in more than a decade, the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry has matched 40 per cent of its graduating students to family medicine residencies.

"That's a huge turnaround for us," said Rick Spooner, chair of the Department of Family Medicine. "In 2003 I think only about 15 per cent of our graduates went into family medicine."

Of the 144 graduates from this year's medical class, 60 are going into family medicine residency programs. Twenty-nine of them are staying at the University of Alberta. Alberta will likely get to keep a lot of these family doctors in the province, since graduate surveys at the universities of Alberta and Calgary have shown that about 75 per cent stick around.

The faculty is getting close to its goal of seeing 50 per cent of its graduating medical students decide on a career in family medicine, says Spooner.

Jody Ching is one of the graduates who chose family medicine.

"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do when I first entered medical school," said Ching. "I was certain that I didn't want to do family medicine."

Her mind was changed when she took part in the Integrated Community Clerkship, a program implemented by the faculty that places third-year medical students in rural communities for a year. Ching was in Slave Lake for nine months; now she's going into rural family medicine, helping to fill a shortage of rural doctors.

"I quickly learned that rural family doctors are involved in every facet of patient care, and it is an in-depth involvement," said Ching. "They do prenatal and then deliver the babies, then one week later they see those newborns in clinic and watch them grow. They see broken bones and cast them, but also deal with patients who are very sick and need hospital admission.

"Truly, there is never a dull moment, and by the end of the year I was hooked on the variety and versatility."

The Integrated Community Clerkship can take some of the credit for the increase in numbers. Thirteen of the 16 students who participated in the clerkship from the 2011 graduating class have been matched to family medicine for their residency; eight of those 13 have been matched to rural family medicine.

"I think this is the first time the faculty has been able to show rural clinical faculty members in Alberta that we really do mean business and we're making a difference," said Jill Konkin, associate dean of the Division of Community Engagement. "It is exciting; this is the highest percentage of students from the ICC that have matched to family medicine and rural family medicine in particular."

Spooner says the Department of Family Medicine has worked very hard for these numbers though, and that they did everything they could to make sure family doctors had a presence in the medical school. The chair himself recruited about 18 doctors for the faculty's Gilbert Scholars program, which teaches medical students how to use good communication skills with patients, how to take a medical history and how to perform a general physical examination.

"We said no one is going to pull us out of this but ourselves," said Spooner. "We took a bite out of the undergraduate program with a vengeance. Everywhere that we could, we got family doctors in there and we paid them—that's what our Alternate Relationship Plan allowed us to do." Alternate Relationship Plans are funding arrangements with the province that allow some departments in the faculty flexibility in how doctors are compensated, in order to meet priority needs.

Christina Beach, another graduate, is going into family medicine in Saskatoon. She thinks that early exposure to family doctors during medical school helped sway a lot of her classmates.

"In our first year of patient-centred care, we had a family doctor early in the semester, and I think that had a big impact, not to mention the mentors who teach discovery learning and the Gilbert's Scholars, who have helped to raise the profile of family medicine," says Beach.

Book explores conflicting fitness messages that underscore women's body stereotypes

Jane Hurly

From boot camp to step aerobics, yoga to martial arts, women have been pummelled by the fitness industry and messages in the media to exercise in pursuit of the pervasive fit, feminine ideal: to look young, thin and toned.

Pirkko Markula

A new book, *Women and Exercise: The Body, Health and Consumerism* edited by Pirkko Markula, a socio-cultural scholar, sheds light on the complex relationships between women and exercise. It's a timely publication considering Statistics Canada's alarming findings from its recently published *Canadian Health Measures Survey*, showing that women exercise less than men, and only 14 per cent of Canadians accumulate the minimum of 150 minutes per week of moderate to vigorous intensity exercise.

Nevertheless, promoting exercise only as a means to weight loss might not always be healthy, says Markula. "Women are told that they should exercise to look good, feel good and to be healthy," she says, although the women interviewed in the book talked about developing a "fat phobia," where the desire to be thin outweighs all other benefits of exercise.

Markula, a certified Pilates instructor, and whose chapter looks at women's experiences of a Pilates class, says the trend toward "mindfulness" in exercise where activities engage both the mind and the body, such as Pilates and yoga, has taken strong root. While these activities can offer women a holistic, deeply inward-looking activity where they are engaged and "present" in every movement of the body, they can also easily become used as a means for "looking good and feeling good."

The fitness industry is also seen in the book's research as one of the key components of contributing to women's negative view of exercise and body image. "Within this industry fat is feared, obesity condemned," says Markula. "In such an environment, many women feel inadequate and flawed instead of empowered with body confidence. Exercise, when promoted as a means for achieving healthy looks, can promote ill health."

But, she says, despite this negative potential, not all fitness industry practices are bad. As an instructor, Markula still believes that exercise can be a very good thing and in her practice she emphasizes other exercise goals.

It is important, says Markula, "that exercising women become more aware of the potentially harmful exercise practices. I hope that, as a result, women can become more informed fitness consumers who can expect a greater variety of fitness services to serve diverse needs of diverse groups of women. The fitness industry can, then, evolve into a better informed and healthier practice that can be fun, rewarding and enjoyable."

Student-led Health Week puts focus on movement

Sandra Pysklywyc

A healthy movement is afoot on campus for students, by students. The Health and Wellness Movement, a University of Alberta Students' Union group, has proclaimed March 28–April 1 as Health Week on campus.

A few of the highlights include opening ceremonies featuring provincial health minister Gene Zwozdesky, an Iron Chef-style cooking competition at Lister Centre to encourage healthy eating and a video game dance-off competition.

Movement president and founding member Alexei Mokhammad says the group is focused on three key areas physical, mental and nutritional health. "We want to make a difference on campus. It's about us as students trying to affect the behaviour of other students," he says.

Mokhammand says he and fellow members saw the need for the group after watching their peers deal with stress and make poor nutrition choices.

Founded just over a year go by a close-knit group of friends in the Faculty of Science, the group now boasts more than 150 members from all over campus. Several of the group's members, including Mokhammad, aspire to careers in the health-care industry and want to make a difference in the lives of their peers.

One of their most recent events included the operation of a fruit stand, where members sold fruit at discounted prices to students to encourage healthy eating.

Mokhammad says the response to this event, and other activities, from students has been fantastic. "We've received really positive feedback and it has resulted in our membership growing. Our group is thrilled reach students with the message of the importance of healthy living."

More recently the group has taken part in the "Take the Stairs" campaign on campus to encourage people to get moving.

"University is the place where habits are formed, and we are encouraging people to form good healthy habits, to spread the message about the benefits of a healthier lifestyle and the future impacts of the health-care system," said Mokhammad.

Heidi Bates, registered dietician and director of the integrated dietetic internship at the U of A, is delighted to see such activities taking place. "The health-care system requires an interdisciplinary approach and it's fantastic to see the students adopt that. Health and well-being is everyone's business; we work in groups and teams and campus and it's incumbent of all us to reach out help," said Bates.

The group has also teamed up with the Medical Students Association to cross-promote the week's events and is using the opening ceremonies as a joint kick off. The medical students are also running events concurrently during their own Mental Health Awareness week.

Researchers find the magic number for cleanliness

Raquel Maurier

Three is the magic number when it comes to getting rid of bacteria on plastic surfaces, suggests research from a U of A study.

Swiping a plastic surface three times will get rid of most bacteria, regardless of whether you're using a disinfectant wipe or a tissue with saline, a team in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry has discovered. But if time is short, a single swipe with a disinfectant wipe is best. .

"It was the mechanical removal, not the actual act of the disinfectant that was key," says Sarah Forgie, a pediatric infectious diseases specialist in the Department of Pediatrics.

Medical student Andrea Berendt, who worked with Forgie on the research, came up with the protocol and conducted all the experiments in a lab over two months. The duo worked with Robert Rennie, a professor in laboratory medicine and pathology; pediatric epidemiologist Donald Spady and technologist LeeAnn Turnbull.

Three types of bacteria—Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), Enterococci (VRE) and Pseudomonas aeruginosa—were each prepared in a mixture and streaked onto sterile plastic Petri dishes, then allowed to dry. Numerous bacteria-contaminated plates were prepared throughout the summer—all in the same manner—so each type of bacteria could be tested with five different types of wipes and then again with varying number of swipes: one swipe, three swipes and five swipes.

Each 10 centimetre-diameter plate was swiped for one second and in a manner covering the entire surface, using a flat baton. The plates were then allowed to dry for 10 minutes. Afterwards, bacteria samples were put onto special lab plates, incubated for at least 24 hours at 35C and then the bacteria colonies were counted.

Research results demonstrated that bacterial counts dropped significantly the more often a plate was swiped, regardless of the type of wipe used. Swiping the contaminated plates three times decreased the bacterial load by 88 per cent on average, compared to just swiping a plate once. Swiping a plate five times didn't result in an additionally significant decrease in bacteria. And a simple saline wipe appeared to be just as effective as disinfectant wipes when the plates were swiped three times or more. However, if the plate was swiped just once, disinfectant wipes were better at reducing bacteria than simple saline wipes.

The research was supported in part by a grant from the Women and Children's Health Research Institute.

U of A an excellent example of a high-profile partner

Michael Davies-Venn

The director of the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, one of 10 German centres for advanced study established to internationalize the humanities and social sciences in Germany, says there is much his organization can learn from the University of Alberta's concentration on interdisciplinary research. Christof Mauch says the U of A is an excellent example of the kinds of international partners his centre seeks.

"After talking to people from different faculties, I realize that we can learn from this university because the scholarship approach here is more practise oriented and we're more theoretical," says Mauch, who is currently a U of A International Distinguished Visiting Professor. "Both approaches are important in advancing issues on the environment, so a partnership with this university could be very good."

Mauch was particularly impressed with the U of A's ability to bring together researchers from different disciplines. He says approaches that go beyond disciplines are vital for addressing issues on the environment.

"At a history class I attended on environmental consciousness, I was struck by the number of students taking the course who come from different disciplines," said Mauch. "What we need in the future are people with an openness that crosses disciplines, people who, as undergraduates and graduates, are taught to understand disciplines that are related but not the same.

"That will change our world more than anything else, and that is why universities, such as the U of A, are very important and why an approach that is trans-disciplinary is also important."

Jeremy Caradonna, U of A history researcher who currently teaches the course at which Mauch appeared as a guest, says environmental history plays a crucial role in helping students understand issues such as environmental degradation, changes to ecosystems and pollution.

"The challenges that the world faces today did not come about overnight," Caradonna says. "Environmental history is important in understanding global-climate change, since carbon dioxide levels have been on the rise for about two centuries. Understanding that rise requires an understanding of the history of industrialization and capitalism, as well as cultural and political change.

"We can't transition to a sustainable society until we understand how we got to our current predicament—and that's the true utility of environmental history."

> "What we need in the future are people with an openness that crosses disciplines, people who, as undergraduates and graduates, are taught to understand disciplines that are related but not the same."
>
> Christof Mauch

Mauch, who gave a public lecture open to the public at the law centre, says that, as a discipline, environmental history has become more common as a subject during the last decades, and the result has been new horizons and new lines of inquiry in the humanities.

"Environmental history has both warnings for us and, given its long view of history, it allows well-known events to appear in a new light, showing how much human production and politics affect perceptions, changes and exploitation of the natural world," he said. "This offers chances for history to regenerate and for the establishment of a distinct new interdisciplinary research field."

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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Japanese students to dress campus with symbol of hope

When the earthquake struck and triggered a tsunami in Japan a little over a week ago, students from that country at the University of Alberta joined the rest of the world to watch as events unfolded.

Amidst their grief, these and other international students at the U of A have are working with the university's Prince Takamado Japan Centre for Teaching and Research and have begun placing Red Cross-marked boxes around campus.

Sawa Senzaki, with the graduate student association, says her group is working with three other student groups, Red Cross Club, East Asian Studies Undergraduate Association and Japanese Conversation Club. Together they will be holding a memorial event on April 11 at the Telus Centre.

For further details on the memorial event and other developments: www.ptjc.ualberta.ca/en.aspx

Livestock service lab to provide services to producers

A new service laboratory will be established in the coming months, thanks to $3.5 million in funding from Western Economic Diversification.

Stephen Moore, CEO of Livestock Gentec, the company for whom the service laboratory will be created, and a professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutrition Science, said his group realized that in order to get the technologies they're producing out of the lab and into the hands of producers, they needed a better delivery system.

"This funding will (allow us to) do that across Canada," he said, adding that the development of the business operations of the service lab will be done with the assistance of TEC Edmonton.

Livestock Gentec conducts genome analysis and research to help identify with greater precision the genetics that enable breeders to produce more efficient cattle, swine and other domestic livestock species, which in turn will produce higher quality milk and meat products in a way that consumers are looking for.

Trial studies physical activity impacts colon cancer

Kerry Courneya, a researcher in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, says exercise plays a pivotal role in the prevention, recurrence and survivorship of cancer.

Exercise is just one way of reducing the risk of developing colon cancer, and it may also be an important way to reduce the risk of the cancer returning, he says.

"Researchers have seen that there is a link between exercise and a lower risk of cancer recurrence and longer survival, but they have not yet determined whether this is a direct cause-and-effect relationship," said Courneya, Canada Research Chair in Physical Activity Cancer, whose work has been funded by the Canadian Cancer Society.

To answer this question, Courneya is leading a clinical trial to examine whether colon cancer survivors who increase their physical activity levels have lower rates of cancer recurrence compared to those who do not increase their activity. In addition to the rate of recurrence, the study will also look at other outcomes such as quality of life, anxiety and physical function.

"Even in healthy populations, exercise adherence is a challenge," says Courneya. So, to help in achieving their goals, survivors assigned to increase their activity will participate in supervised exercise programs and behavioural support sessions. "The goal is to get people to increase their overall activity—any type of physical activity—by about two-and-a-half hours of moderate exercise or one-and-a-quarter hours of vigorous activity per week," he says.

Record-setting captain ends track career with a bronze

Materials engineering student Amanda Schneck is finishing her final year of studies and just wrapped up her last year as captain of the U of A Pandas athletics team, earning a bronze medal in pentathlon at the national championships.

"It was a great way to finish off my CIS career," said Schneck, who broke the Pandas' records in pentathlon six times in the past two years—four times this season alone. "This was probably the best the Pandas and Bears have done in a long time." The Pandas finished fourth at the nationals last weekend, while the Golden Bears finished sixth overall.

Schneck, one of 42 varsity-level athletes in the Faculty of Engineering, was in fourth place before the 800-metre final event at the nationals in Quebec. There was only one way to the podium. "I knew there were some girls behind me who could run some fast times and one girl ahead of me who I knew wouldn't, so I just ran it as hard as I could."

It worked: Schneck turned in a personal best in the race, along with her earlier personal bests in high jump and hurdles.

A fifth-year materials engineering co-op student, Schneck was also recently named the Female Academic All-Canadian Athlete of the Year. The award is given to the top female athlete at the U of A to receive the Academic All-Canadian status, having maintained a grade-point average of 80 per cent or better over the academic year while competing on a university varsity team.

"I was incredibly honoured to receive the award," said Schneck. "The woman who won the same award last year is someone I have always looked up to. To win the same award as an athlete of that calibre is pretty cool."

U of A mourns friend and tireless volunteer

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta community is mourning the passing of a tireless volunteer and supporter whose vigour for education was matched in scale only by her laugh, say those who knew her. Longtime university friend and arts advocate Margaret Andrekson died March 10. She was 83.

Born in Edmonton in 1927, Andrekson, nee Weir, started at the U of A in 1946 and received a bachelor of arts degree in English in 1949. Six months after graduating, she married her university sweetheart Alexander Andrekson, who went on to become a well-known judge in Alberta.

Despite raising five children, Andrekson had an unparalleled dedication to Edmonton, and particularly the U of A, focusing her energy and attention on arts, education, social welfare and health. For more than 50 years, Andrekson gave unselfishly of her time to various boards and organizations, including the Edmonton Symphony Society, both the University of Alberta's senate and board of governors, the U of A Hospital and in varying capacities to the university's Faculty of Arts.

Pat Clements, former dean of the Faculty of Arts from 1989–99, remembers Andrekson's commitment to the faculty in countless roles, from fund development to advisor.

"Margaret was very lively with a wonderful sense of humour and a light touch," remembers Clements. "I think she, along with her husband, believed deeply in education. I believe they had a deep commitment to making things better through education."

Margaret Andrekson

In 1984, Andrekson co-founded the Friends of the U of A Museums with Helen Collinson. Andrekson and her husband, until his death in 1997, spent their time raising public awareness of what she considered "Edmonton's best-kept secret—the university's outstanding, and in some cases world-renowned, collections."

The Andreksons made it one of their missions to champion the U of A arts collection, donating more than 100 works of art to the cause, including a Group of Seven oil painting by Lawren Harris entitled, "Robertson Bay, Greenland."

"Margaret will always be remembered in my heart as a gracious, but always formidable, advocate for the arts and the importance of volunteers in our society," said Janine Andrews, executive director of U of A Museums. "She is one of the university's and Edmonton's true heroes."

An undeniable community builder, Andrekson received many honours, including being named a member of the Order of Canada in 1996 and receiving the Queens Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002. She was given an honorary degree from the U of A in 1987 and has a scholarship in art history at the U of A named in her honour. In 2007, Andrekson was inducted into the City of Edmonton Hall of Fame.

While accolades for Andrekson seemed to pour out of every sector of Edmonton life, they all seemed to lead back to the U of A. She once said of the university, "each part of the community—the public of Edmonton and the U of A—should understand and appreciate the other."

Virology institute to celebrate first birthday

Michael Ulrich

Nearly a year after the University of Alberta received the largest cash gift in its history, from the Li Ka Shing (Canada) Foundation—which, along with five other donations, led to the creation of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology—the inaugural director of the institute, Lorne Tyrrell, is excited about the progress that is already being made.

"We want to become among the leaders in the world in virology discoveries and cures," said Tyrrell, who spoke about the work of the institute during a lecture at the U of A's Calgary Centre March 8. The lecture audience largely comprised academics, clinicians and others involved in research and treating viral infections in Calgary.

Tyrrell, who will be inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame this spring, shared information about the work being done at the institute in an effort to treat and cure persistent viral infections, primarily hepatitis B (HBV) and hepatitis C (HCV). In Canada, there are approximately 300,000 people living with HBV and 240,000 with HCV. Worldwide estimates of chronic carriers of HBV are 400 million and of HCV, 170 million.

"I feel we can truly make a difference," said Tyrrell, who foresees that the research being done on hepatitis C worldwide may result in cures of up to 90 per cent of cases within the next five to 10 years.

Leading the way in hepatitis virology research at the institute is Michael Houghton, who co-discovered the hepatitis C virus and was recruited to the U of A as a Canada Excellence Research Chair. Houghton is an internationally acclaimed researcher in his field and is helping to generate key collaborations between the U of A and other institutes provincially, nationally and internationally. Tyrrell says this work is extremely important to the overall success of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology.

"We must seek great collaborators in order to achieve the results we want and to push our research forward," said Tyrrell. "At the same time, we must remember that teaching and research need to be complementary to one another. Some of the ideas for our best research have come from teaching, and graduate students and post-doctoral fellows have their fingerprints on most of our significant discoveries."

The future of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology appears promising says Tyrrell and, thanks to additional funding from the Government of Alberta's Community Initiatives Program and the federal government, construction is nearly complete in the remaining space the institute will eventually occupy at the U of A.

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Professor rewrote history of Aboriginal contributions to Canada

Michael Brown

On March 12, the University of Alberta lost a dedicated professor whose work rewrote the history of the Aboriginal contribution to the building of Canada. Canadian history professor Olive Dickason was 91.

Olive Dickason

Dickason was born in Manitoba in 1920 and graduated high school by correspondence because her parents earned their living in the province's remote northern region. She went on to earn her bachelor of arts degree in philosophy and French from Notre Dame College in 1943 before starting what would become a distinguished career in journalism that lasted for 23 years and culminated in a job at the *Globe and Mail* newspaper.

Acutely aware of the inaccuracy and paucity of information around Canadian Aboriginal history, Dickason left journalism for a master's degree in Canadian history in 1972 and a PhD in 1977, both from the University of Ottawa. While in the midst of her PhD, Dickason joined the U of A's Department of History and Classics in 1975.

Her work and lectures illustrated the overlooked Aboriginal contribution to the fortification of the Canadian economy, particularly in the areas of the fur trade, whaling and forestry sectors.

"Most of my adolescent and teen years I spent up north on the trap lines and you learn a view of life that you certainly don't get in the cities and in the schools. When I [was first introduced to] Canadian history, Aboriginal history was just dismissed," she once said of her motivation to pursue a new career setting the Canadian-history record straight.

"This country is deeply founded and deeply linked with Aboriginals. When I realized that the courses being taught didn't refer to this at all, I got very disturbed."

Although her academic career was relatively short, Dickason made the most of it. Her passion for early Canadian history and her pride and interest in her Métis heritage are reflected in subsequent work. She wrote *Indian Arts in Canada*, which won three awards for conception and design. Dickason is also the author of the highly touted *The Myth of the Savage and the Beginnings of French Colonization in the Americas*, numerous scholarly articles and co-author of *The Law of Nations and the New World*.

As an author, Olive has been instrumental in researching and documenting the importance of Aboriginal participation at every stage of Canadian history. In her seminal *Canada's First Nations: A History of Founding Peoples From Earliest Times*, published in 1992, Dickason tried, she says, to "reverse the perspective of the standard history." Her textbook, *A Concise History of Canada's First Nations*, became an essential contribution to history courses at the high-school level. Dickason and her books figure importantly in Quebec's Canadian Museum of Civilization's display honouring the achievements of prominent First Nations individuals in Canada.

Among her many accolades, Dickason, who was made a professor emerita when she retired from the U of A in 1992, was awarded the Order of Canada in 1996 and received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation in 1997.

"She was highly regarded as a scholar, and treasured as a human being," said Andie Palmer, associate chair in the Department of Anthropology and long-time friend of Dickason. "She had the care for [the U of A], and took a continued and supportive interest in her colleagues and students."

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until March 28

Climate Trail – The Pathfinder Towards Global Solutions Display. This exhibit explains the causes of global warming, as well as its impacts on our planet. It describes how we can reduce carbon dioxide emissions and how Switzerland is addressing climate change. Enterprise Square.

March 28–April 1

Health Week. A collaborative effort of a dozen university groups to put together 30-plus events focusing on physical, nutritional and mental health. Look for events across the university. Gene Zwozdesky, minister of health, will open the week on March 28 at noon in the 1080 Katz Group Centre for Pharmacy and Health Research.

Until June 24

The Last Best West: Glimpses of the Prairie Provinces from the Golden Age of Postcards. This exhibition of postcards is from the settlement and urbanization of the Canadian Northwest. The Peel's Prairie Provinces postcard collection contains thousands of fascinating and informative images, including personalized views of first houses, farms and family groups, as well as important events, disasters and buildings. Admission is free. Exhibition catalogues are available for $25. Noon–4:30 p.m. Lower level, South Rutherford Library.

Until March 30

Sculpture from the Human Body. Works selected from second- to fourth-year sculpture classes offered by the Department of Art and Design. South foyer, Rutherford Library.

March 26

Out of Sight: A Sensory Experience. An evening of fine dining to raise awareness and funds for research to detect, diagnose and treat inherited forms of vision loss. Complimentary champagne and hors d'oeuvres to enjoy while you browse the silent auction tables, the scotch-tasting booth and the black box raffles, live auction and entertainment. Tickets $200. 5:30 p.m. Crowne Plaza. For more information go to www.ophthalm.med.ualberta.ca/Library/Documents/poster-Oct-2010-v3.pdf

Writing Home and Indigenous Thought. Deanna Reder, co-editor of Troubling, and Warren Cariou, author and film documentarist of Land of Oil and Water and Aboriginal literature lecturer at the University of Manitoba, will be together for an evening of two talks and a conversation that challenges western assumptions of Native representation concerning urbanity and human waste. 6:30–8:30 p.m. 1-5 Alberta School of Business.

March 28

The third annual Olive Yonge Teaching and Learning Scholarship Day is in honour of an exceptional teacher and scholar at the Faculty of Nursing and is in recognition of Yonge's outstanding contribution to the discipline and profession of nursing. 8 a.m.–4 p.m. Lister Centre. www.nursing.ualberta.ca/en/TeachingLearning/OliveYongeDay.aspx

The Department of Cell Biology Guest Speaker. Susan Harkema, professor of neurological surgery at the University of Louisville, KY, will be on hand to give a talk entitled, "Strategies for Neuromuscular Recovery after Spinal Cord Injury." 9:30–10:30 a.m. 510 Medical Sciences.

March 31

CIUS Seminar Series. John Pihach will talk on Austrian Records for Researching Galician Family History. Records created during the time when Galicia was part of the Austrian empire allow people to determine what properties their ancestors had, what crops they grew, the income they derived from those crops, what obligations to the nobles they had during the time of serfdom, what taxes they paid. 3 p.m. 2-06 Pembina Hall.

Research Forum, New Media Artists: Virtual Lessons in Reality. Eclipsing initial debates pertaining to the moral import or pejorative rejection of gaming as a low cultural medium, critical game studies has begun to develop a varied approach to investigating the cultural significance of video games and gaming. 3:30–4:30 p.m. 128 Education Centre.

April 2

Science FUNday. Science Fundamentals host this free exhibition geared towards increasing science awareness in elementary-school age children. There will be science demonstrations and interactive activities, along with guest presenters. This year's theme is Planet FUNday: A Space Odyssey. All ages are welcome. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Dinwoodie Lounge Students' Union Building.

University of Alberta Mixed Chorus 67th Annual Spring Concert. Experience the beauty of choral sound while celebrating Robert de Frece's 25th year of conducting. To mark the occasion, "Three Canadian Folksongs," a commissioned work by Canadian composer Mark Sirett, will be premiered. Also featured are the Faculty of Education Handbell Ringers, one of Canada's most accomplished handbell groups. 8–10 p.m.

April 4

Meosophilic Thermotogales Bacteria in the Wild and in Culture. Camilla Nesbo, professor in the Department of Biology at the University of Oslo, is presenting this seminar as part of her application for adjunct status in the Department of Biological Sciences. 11 a.m.–noon. M137 Biological Sciences.

Winspear 5. University Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m., Arts and Convocation Hall.

April 5

Art Therapy Information Session. Come learn about the art therapy profession, what it is, what training you need, and what work opportunities are available to professional art therapists. RSVP at meers@ualberta.ca or call 780-439-7311 1–3 p.m. St. Stephen's College.

April 7

Annual Public Lecture in Philosophy. Distinguished scholar Allen Carlson critically analyzes different positions of how we should aesthetically appreciate nature—an important question since our appreciation of natural environments greatly influences how we treat such environments. 3:30 p.m. B-95 Tory Building.

Educated Wallet–You Can't Take it With You. No matter our stage in life, we all have questions about money and want to make smart choices. We've put together a series designed to help alumni and students become more educated about money matters. Financial expert Jim Yih and Avideh Musgrave offer expertise on wills, personal directives, guardianship and estate planning and taxes. 6:30–9:30 p.m. TELUS Centre 236. $25 per person (incl. a light dinner) To register go to www.ualberta.ca/alumni/educatedwallet

April 8

History & Classics LH Thomas Distinguished Lecture Series: "The Letter of Philip to the Athenians." Jeremy Trevett, Department of History at York University, will give this talk as part of the Lewis H. Thomas Distinguished Lecture Series. 4–5:30 p.m. 1-6 Alberta School of Business.

laurels

U of A Industrial Design Alum **Todd Cherniawsky** was part of Robert Stromberg and Karen O'Hara-led team that won an art direction Oscar for their work in the movie Alice in Wonderland at the 2011 Academy Awards. Cherniawsky was part of the team that won in the category of art direction at the 2010 Academy Awards for the movie Avatar.

Charles (Tom) Peacocke, former head of the U of A's department of drama, and a longtime actor and director, has been nominated for a 2011 Mayor's Celebration of Arts award.

Doug Hardy, coach of the Augustana Vikings curling team, has been named Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference Curling Coach of the year.

Sangita Sharma, professor in the Department of Medicine has been named Centennial Professor for a period of seven years, effective July 1. The title of Centennial Professor is a university recognition of Sharma's outstanding record of scholarly research, teaching and service and is considered one of the highest honours the university can bestow on a person.

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Celebrate!

In many ways, this year's Celebration of Research and Innovation was an event with something for everyone. Medical, natural and social scientists; veteran, mid-career and young researchers; academic and support staff—all were represented at this year's event in the Myer Horowitz Theatre March 22.

Started in 2009, the celebration filled a perceived gap in recognition of excellence in research on campus. Lorne Babiuk, vice-president (research), says that the decision to hold an event to provide recognition for contributions made to the institution by researchers was a collective idea.

"People said, 'it's about time we started to celebrate and recognize our colleagues for all their hard work and demonstrate that we have individuals at this university who are recognized nationally and internationally. Often people did not know what their colleagues were doing, so it is important to demonstrate and celebrate those achievements."

This year's Celebration of Research and Innovation brought out some familiar faces, including President Indira Samarasekera (centre), board of governors member Robert Teskey (top right), Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach (bottom centre) and associate dean of science (diversity) Margaret-Ann Armour (bottom left).

ARCHIVES 5

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 2
On the march
Mountain pine beetle jumps species and charts an eastward course

Page 5
Digital generosity
Computing science sends refurbished computers to Ecuador

Page 8
Rehab med adds some muscle
Musculoskeletal research chair filled

Volume 48 Issue 15 | April 8, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Surgery instruction initiative goes viral

Quinn Phillips

When Jonathan White came up with the idea to do surgery podcasts for University of Alberta medical students, he never imagined it would take off worldwide.

Jonathan White recording a podcast.

The idea was to record and post podcasts to give undergraduate medical education students a basic understanding of specific surgical processes. He wanted them to be easily accessible to students in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry so he put them on iTunes for free as "Surgery 101."

"I think, over the first year, we had approximately 95 or 100 students out of the 120 downloading the podcasts," said White, the director of undergraduate surgical education in the faculty. Something that surprised him, though, was how many non-student downloads were occurring.

After a year they had about 25,000 downloads and were finished their first 10 episodes. They decided to keep recording them and they've really picked up steam.

"If you look at the figures, it took us two-and-a-half years to get the first 100,000 downloads," said White. "With our figures at the moment, it's going to take us about nine months to get to 200,000."

They are now averaging between 400 and 600 downloads a day from 100 countries worldwide, including Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand and Turkey, with the biggest numbers coming from North America.

Continued on page 2

Running man

KVLN Studios

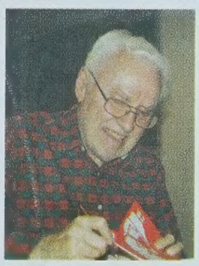
Tim Young makes his way through HUB Mall during one of the few times the Faculty of Law computer programer isn't taking the stairs. Story page 7.

Renowned writer and artist named as Distinguished Artists

Folio staff

Two members of the University of Alberta community have been named recipients of this year's Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Distinguished Artist Awards.

Robert Kroetsch, a U of A alumnus and honorary degree recipient, and Jane Ash Poitras, an alumna as well as sessional instructor at the university, will be presented with the awards in St. Albert's new Enjoy Centre, as part of the city's 150th anniversary celebrations April 9.



Robert Kroetsch

The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Distinguished Artist Awards celebrate excellence in, and underlines the importance of, the arts in Alberta. The awards recognize individual Albertans for outstanding achievement in the arts or for significant contribution to the arts in Alberta.

Poitras, who holds a bachelor of fine arts degree in printmaking, as well as a degree in microbiology from the U of A, is an internationally acclaimed visual artist whose work has been showcased in numerous solo and group exhibitions around the world. She is a long-standing sessional instructor with the U of A's Faculty of Native Studies and a highly sought-after guest lecturer across North America.

As a child, she was told she'd never make a living as an artist and pursued her science degree. But while working as a clinical and industrial microbiologist, Poitras continued to work at her art in her spare time, taking evening courses at the U of A. She was ultimately persuaded by her instructor to present a portfolio of her work to the U of A's Department of Art and Design.

"I am thrilled to receive this award, and humbled to be in the company of the other recipients who are so accomplished. I've travelled to the four corners of the planet, but I'm always excited to come back to Alberta to my family, my people ... and my dogs," said Poitras.

Jane Ash Poitras

Robert Kroetsch, renowned poet, novelist, essayist and teacher, is one of Canada's most accomplished authors. He earned a bachelor of arts degree from the U of A in 1948 and published his first novel, *But We Are Exiles*, in 1965. With a career spanning 40 years, Kroetsch has received numerous honours, including the prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for his book *The Studhorse Man*. He has penned nine internationally acclaimed novels, 12 books of poetry and five books of non-fiction, essays and exploration.

"I spent many years travelling around the world, but I never left Alberta," said Kroetsch. "It has always been a country of my imagination. I love the stories, the landscape and the people."

U of A faculty English professor Rudy Wiebe and professor emeritus Greg Hollingshead have previously received the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Distinguished Artist Awards.

Tempting the nature of wolves

Story page 6

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Mountain pine beetle set for march east to Maritimes

Brian Murphy

A University of Alberta-led research team has determined that the mountain pine beetle has invaded jack pine forests in Alberta, opening up the possibility for an infestation stretching east across the Prairies all the way to the Atlantic.

A group of U of A tree biologists and geneticists discovered that, as the mountain pine beetle spread eastward from central British Columbia, it successfully jumped species from its main host, the lodgepole pine, to the jack pine.

U of A molecular ecologist Catherine Cullingham says that before the beetle adapted to the jack pine its first move was to a hybrid species, a cross between lodgepole and jack pine.

"Tracking the pine beetles progression and telling jack pine from the hybrid species took a lot of work, "said Cullingham. "It was tricky, but our research team used molecular markers to conclusively show that the latest pine species to be attacked is indeed jack pine."

Research team member Janice Cooke says confirmation of the pine beetles' jump to another species is a real concern. "Jack pine is the dominant pine species in Canada's boreal forest," said Cooke. "Its range extends east from Alberta all the way to the Maritime provinces."

University researchers teamed up with Alberta Sustainable Resources Development and the Canadian Forest Service to track the progress of the mountain pine beetle infestation across the province. The insects have been found in jack pines as far east in Alberta as Slave Lake, which is 200 kilometres north of Edmonton.

Mountain pine beetles are about the size of a grain of rice. The hard-shelled insects spread by flying and with the aid of wind currents. Researchers currently have no estimate for the speed at which the insect might continue to spread eastward.

"Discovering that the mountain pine beetle has spread into jack pine is an important finding," said Cooke. "Being able to provide forest managers and decision makers with this information in real time has been vital in the ongoing battle against this devastating forest pest."

The research was published April 4 in the journal *Molecular Ecology*.

Research shows the mountain pine beetle has successfully jumped pine species. (Supplied photo)

Wealthy diabetics have poorer diets

Bev Betkowski

Middle-class wage-earners who have Type 2 diabetes appear to be healthier eaters than their wealthier counterparts.

A new University of Alberta study that measured a link between diet quality and income for people with Type 2 diabetes found that those earning $120,000 or more had lower-quality diets than patients earning between $21,000 and $60,000.

The study, which involved 49 Type 2 diabetes patients living in Edmonton, revealed that quality of diet—defined in terms of variety, adequacy and moderation—climbed steadily as household income grew, peaking at about the $60,000 mark, said Denise Maxwell, of the Department of Rural Economy. Maxwell conducted the research as part of her master's degree.

As the salary level climbed beyond $60,000 to $120,000 and more, the quality of diet declined steadily to ultimately drop below that of people subsisting on $21,000 incomes, Maxwell noted. As well, her study showed that people with the highest-quality diet scores spent less money on food. Analysis showed that an increase in household fruit and vegetable expenditures was associated with a rise in diet quality. The same expenditure on convenience meals, which are often high in fat, salt and/or sugar, resulted in a decrease in diet quality. The analysis also showed that higher diet quality was associated with a better control of blood sugar.

The findings were surprising, Maxwell said. "We know that people living on low incomes often struggle to find a balance between budget and good nutrition, but it isn't something that is normally associated with high incomes.

"However, our results suggest that Type 2 diabetes patients in higher-paying jobs spend more time at work. This may lead to convenience becoming more important than proper nutrition."

Both low-income and high-income earners face their own challenges, especially when dealing with diabetes, Maxwell added.

It appears that low-income earners appear to have budget constraints that may have them reaching for inexpensive processed foods, while those on high incomes grapple with lack of time to prepare wholesome meals, and rely on restaurant meals or pre-packaged processed meals instead. Many of these choices are high in fat, salt and/or sugar.

"Public health policies aimed at educating low-income diabetes patients in purchasing and preparing low-cost nutritious foods, such as more affordable cuts of meat, may help to improve or maintain health status of these people," Maxwell noted.

As well, similar policies should exist for educating high-income patients who work long hours, outlining where and how to purchase, as well as how to prepare, time-saving diabetes-appropriate foods in order to improve their diets, she said.

The study was funded by the U of A's Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, the U of A Department of Rural Economy and Alberta Health Services, with additional funding from the University of Wisconsin – Madison Graduate School.

> "Our results suggest that Type 2 diabetes patients in higher-paying jobs spend more time at work. This may lead to convenience becoming more important than proper nutrition."
>
> Denise Maxwell

Bev Betkowski

Denise Maxwell found that money doesn't necessarily buy good health.

Surgery 101 beamed out to 100 countries

continued from page 1

"We've done no promotion," said White, who admits he's shocked by the popularity. "We did a few workshops nationally and went down to Salt Lake City for a conference and gave a few talks on how to make a podcast."

Just a couple of months ago, White and his resident, who helped get things off the ground, expanded beyond general surgery topics. They set up a mobile podcasting team that visits the offices of faculty colleagues and helps them record a 10-minute podcast on various specialities, such as heart bypass surgery.

"We got such a big response that we had enough material to produce one a week for six months," said White. "Since late October we've been publishing every single Friday."

And they show no sign of slowing down, says White.

"For now it's been very content-based," he said. "We're about to get an orthopedic surgeon to do one and we haven't had any in thoracic or vascular surgery. I also want to get more residents involved even for things like 'why would you want to consider being a surgeon?' or 'what is it like to have a night on call?'"

Reverse engineering the economy

Jamie Hanlon

Imagine there was a way to engineer shorter and less painful economic recessions. Alberta School of Business professor Randall Morck thinks there may be. And he plans to use his recent Bank of Canada Fellowship to conduct that research.

Morck was named March 30 as one of two leading researchers receiving the bank's prestigious fellowship award, which is "designed to encourage leading-edge research and to develop expertise in Canada in a number of areas critical to the bank's mandate." The fellowship covers a period of five years for a maximum of $450,000. Morck is the first University of Alberta recipient.

Much of Morck's previous research has delved into the efficiency of financial systems like banks, financial markets and business corporations and how they maximize the use of their investors' monies. Morck says that this type of research is likely what attracted the bank's attention.

As part of his fellowship, Morck, along with colleagues in the United States and Singapore, will examine the apparent domino effect caused by central bank policies and their influence on a country's economic performance. Through a reverse-engineering of macroeconomic policy decisions, Morck and his colleagues hope to better understand how and why they have such an impact on the economy. He believes that these analyses will be beneficial to Canada's economy—and likely world economies as well.

"The idea is to break macroeconomic policy down to identify its microeconomic effects, and then build those effects back up to understand economy-level outcomes," said Morck. "Intuitively, the idea is to understand what really happens on the ground when central bankers pull their monetary policy levers.

"Ultimately, this sort of research could lead to milder and shorter recessions."

Since 2003, the Bank of Canada has awarded 12 fellowships to researchers across Canada.

Staff reductions last option in 2011–12 budget cuts

Folio staff

Provost Carl Amrhein and vice-president (finance) Phyllis Clark have provided an update on expected 2011–12 budget cuts.

The provost and vice-president (finance) confirmed that, based on current assumptions, all faculties and administrative units across the university "should expect an average of two percent budget cuts for the 2011–12 year." This follows the recent Alberta budget that verified that the university will receive a zero per cent provincial operating grant increase for 2011–12.

"The bottom line is that, while the university's budget will not decrease, it will also not increase fast enough to keep pace with the cost of doing business," Amrhein said. "What that means will be different for each dean."

In a letter to deans, chairs and directors, Amrhein and Clark indicated that all units have been asked to begin developing budget scenarios based on the two per cent cut assumption. As is normal, deans, chairs and directors will be responsible for how cuts are made in their own areas.

Amrhein and Clark urged faculties and units to consider position reductions as the last resort. They went on to say that "talented people are without question the university's greatest asset," pointing out that it is difficult to rebuild following reductions in positions.

Each vice-president will also be expected to make a two per cent cut overall in their areas of responsibility.

"Please be reminded that budget reductions are by no means the only solution being pursued by the university in the face of resource pressures," Amrhein and Clark concluded in their letter to the deans. Further, citing significant "success with finding new administrative efficiencies over the past several years," they said the university "will continue to seek additional ways to achieve further efficiencies."

Phys ed and rec prof gets SALUTE from Students' Union

Jane Hurly

Professor Brian Maraj is teaching students the concepts of skills acquisition and performance. He has members of the "studio audience," as he calls his class when he wants volunteers, lined up one behind the other with instructions to touch, as rapidly as possible, four different spots of the back of the person in front of them.

Brian Maraj

There's anticipation and laughter in the air as the students try their best, but it's slow at first. When the students get the idea, Maraj turns the fun into a way to relate what the students have experienced and seen into a demystification of the complex laws of motor behaviour.

It's all part of engaging students in a rich learning experience and one that's earned Maraj a 2011 Students' Union SALUTE teaching excellence award.

"What's most humbling is that it came from the students," says Maraj, who understands all too well how busy students are with their own lives, let alone making the time to nominate a teacher.

But the students have every reason to take the time. Last year, Maraj showed how far he'll go to show a student he cares: he organized an all-day squash "Marajathon" and fundraiser in honour of student Terry Tenove, who had suffered a catastrophic spinal accident during a skating drill. "I wanted to do something I love (squash), for someone we love," says Maraj. His act of kindness raised more than $4,000, all of which went to the Steadward Centre's activity programs for kids with disabilities in Tenove's name.

Does he have a teaching strategy? "No strategy; I just let it unfold," he says. "I do know that I love the things that I teach. I try as best as I can to demonstrate the concepts and mechanisms so that students understand them. If they can see and understand something, they'll find applications for it in a number of different ways—maybe even well after they've completed their degrees."

Maraj also masterminded a laboratory research experience called KURTs—Kinesiology Undergraduate Research Teams—bringing some of his class's brightest sparks into his perceptual motor behaviour lab to work on a current research project together, or take on a new one. Maraj was awarded a McCalla Professorship on 2007 because of this innovative idea that integrates teaching and research—a key criterion of the award.

As part of one of these laboratory research experiences, students are supervised by Maraj or graduate students in the lab and he says it's a great learning opportunity for the students and for him. "Students learn data collection, equipment usage and ethics approval, and generally get a real taste for the research experience and a greater appreciation for what it takes to answer a particular research question.

"I learn a lot too," he says. "Undergraduates are a great source of different perspectives, energy, enthusiasm and ideas that really make you think. Their capacity for contribution is sometimes underestimated. I have always been very impressed with the level of undergraduate students that we've had here and I am so pleased that I get the opportunity to work with them, both in the lab and in the class."

> "I do know that I love the things that I teach."
>
> Brian Maraj

The secret to his success as a teacher, he says, lies in caring deeply about the material he's teaching and teaching it with passion—and caring deeply about each student in the class. "I speak to one student like I'd speak to 100; I speak to 100 like I'd speak to one. I think that if someone in an audience feels as though you're speaking directly to them, that's a great step towards facilitating their understanding of something."

Maraj says he's found great students in his class year after year. "This is my 12th year at the U of A and I feel blessed that I've had the opportunity to work with such incredible students. I have never been disappointed."

Engineering prof leads pioneering carbon-research project

Jenna Hoff

Greenhouse gas emissions caused by the burning of coal are a complex global concern. In Canada alone there are approximately 50 coal-fired power plants, each producing roughly three million tons per year of carbon dioxide emissions.

However, a cutting-edge research team, led by mechanical engineering professor Sushanta Mitra, is starting a three-year study that could lead to new technologies that diminish or eliminate the need for burning coal, dramatically reducing the nation's global carbon footprint.

The multidisciplinary team includes biologists, geologists, geoscientists and engineers from across Canada and will investigate the use of microbes to convert deep, non-mineable coal into gas or liquid fuels, or their fuel precursors.

While Mitra says the science behind this bioconversion is still in its infancy, it could break ground towards providing a greener alternative to conventional coal combustion processes.

"The challenge is that our understanding of the process is currently confounded by the complexity and variability of coal, the inaccessibility of many coal seams and their associated microbiota, and the lack of knowledge of basic biodegradation systematics and reactant transport in coal," said Mitra.

The team will study a process known as methanogenesis, in which microscopic organisms convert coal into methane and other products. They will determine what microbes are present in coal measures and analyze the components of coal constituents that can be broken down to produce fuel components.

The group will also study environmental conditions that inhibit or enhance this biodegration, and the development of engineering methods and tools that optimize this process.

"Whether these microbial communities can be coaxed into producing far greater volumes of methane at much higher rates than currently is a multi-billion dollar question," said Mitra, adding that the project has the potential to lead to pre-commercialization technology that can be further developed for transfer to industry on both a national and international level.

Supplied

Sushanta Mitra is starting a three-year study that could lead to new technologies, diminishing or eliminating the need for burning coal.

According to Mitra, the technology is applicable worldwide, and could greatly benefit Canada. If the research is utilized in large coal-consuming countries such as the United States, China and India, it could have a huge impact on cleaner energy production and emissions reduction. As well, given that only about five per cent of Alberta's coalbed methane reserves are recoverable using state-of-the-art techniques, bioconversion provides an attractive alternative to produce fuel from this resource. The export of the technology would also benefit Canada through licensing and intellectual property agreements.

The study is supported by a $1.92 million grant from Carbon Management Canada, a national research network with the goal of driving net carbon emissions toward zero, as well as through $150,000 in funding from Encana, an industry partner and leader in the successful exploration and development of unconventional natural gas production.

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Walter Boddez, whose name was drawn as part of folio's March 25 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Boddez correctly identified the photo in question as a cutaway engine display located on the second floor of the Mechanical Engineering Building. For his correct answer, Boddez has won a University of Alberta-issued stainless-steel coffee mug, as well as a U of A-emblazoned bookmark.

Up for grabs this week is yet another U of A-issued stainless-steel coffee mug, as well as a U of A-emblazoned bookmark. To win, simply email what building the photo is of and email your answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, April 15, and you will be entered into the draw.

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Michael Brown

Spring has sprung across the U of A's North Campus.

U of A showcased at major international finance summit in Calgary

Michael Ulrich

The University of Alberta had a significant presence at a major international event held in Calgary March 25–28. For four days, the Inter-American Development Bank held a series of meetings involving hundreds of high-level delegates, including ministers of finance, presidents of central banks, high-level authorities from IDB member countries and other representatives from development agencies and private banks.

President Indira Samarasekera was invited by the organizers to moderate one of the keynote panels, entitled "Developing Connections: Connecting the Unconnected."

This panel featured speakers from Microsoft, the University of California – Berkeley, Korea Telecom and Telefónica Internacional USA, who discussed the rapid growth and adoption of information and communication technologies in several regions of the world, primarily Latin America. Discussion focused on the importance of understanding the nuances and requirements needed to utilize information and communication technology as a tool for promoting both sustainable economic welfare and structural change through the empowerment of individuals and communities.

Samarasekera was also a panelist in a session hosted by Canadian Finance Minister Jim Flaherty. The aim of the session was to explore innovative ways for generating sustainable private sector development. She provided a brief look at the changes in university research, and research funding, in Canada over the last decade, explored the need for some rethinking of partnerships between universities and the private sector, and offered some suggestions on what those partnerships could include.

In addition to Samarasekera's participation in these two panels, the U of A's School of Public Health hosted an event on the eve of the IDB meetings, bringing together a group of leading economists, development bankers and health policy-makers for a panel presentation at the U of A's Calgary Centre. For complete coverage of this panel, see story on page 11.

CAFA announced 2011 awards deadline

The Confederation of Alberta Faculty Associations has announced the deadlines for its two 2011 Distinguished awards. Submissions for the 2011 CAFA Distinguished Academic Award and the 2011 CAFA Distinguished Academic Early Career Award is April 20. The 2011 CAFA Distinguished Academic Award recognizes an academic staff or group of staff members, who through their research and/or scholarly, creative or professional activities, have created an outstanding contribution to the wider community beyond the university. The 2011 CAFA Distinguished Academic Early Career Award recognizes an academic staff member at an early stage of their career who, though their research and/or scholarly, creative or professional activities, have created an outstanding contribution to the wider community beyond the university. Nomination details and forms are available at www.ualberta.ca/cafa.

Making research recognition commonplace

Lorne Babiuk, vice-president (research)

the open door

The University of Alberta has undertaken a number of initiatives in order to enhance a culture of recognizing the research excellence of its faculty and improve the quality of the nominations its researchers put forward for major awards.

In late 2010, the President's Research Awards Advisory Committee was struck to identify the range of research awards, both national and international, and their submission deadlines.

Lorne Babiuk

Beginning in January 2011, in an effort to help faculty submit the best possible applications, the Office of the Vice-President (Research) created an optional internal review process with a deadline roughly six weeks in advance of the actual award nomination application deadline.

After the internal deadline, applications are provided to members of the University's College of Reviewers, which is made up of faculty members from a large number of faculties. A handful of content and non-content experts from the college are chosen to review each application and submit their comments back to the applicant or nominator.

This balance of expertise is important to ensure the application reaches the widest range of adjudicators possible because, in many cases, members of the college also have experience on various adjudication committees and know what selection committees are looking for, thus improving the applicant's chances of success.

Because we have such a wonderful array of people who have agreed to join the College of Reviewers, it hasn't been a problem finding the appropriate individuals to review each case. The experience we have had to date is that the reviewers are extremely conscientious and diligent, and they have done a great job in providing constructive feedback.

We encourage faculty members to apply for internal and local/regional awards, which form the foundation for national and international awards. As well, awards have additional collateral benefits. For example, when two grant applications are almost equivalent, but there is only money for one, it stands to reason that the researcher who has received recognition and awards from his or her peers has a better chance of getting that grant. Some awards have monetary benefits as well, but the recognition by a researcher's peers is critical.

The importance of awards recognition was on full display during the annual Celebration of Research and Innovation on March 22. This salute to the university's vast scope of achievement in research is another way to create momentum by celebrating the various awards that students, faculty and staff receive.

In the end, ensuring our researchers are extremely competitive in the awards selection process is one of our main objectives. This internal review process has been instituted to ensure that people receive the appropriate recognition for their achievements and contributions, and the objective is to add value to the preparation of nominations through internal review.

The quality of our faculty members is as high or higher than at many other universities, and we are committed to doing all we can to ensure that the quality of their work is recognized by major national and international awards.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

PRESIDENT'S SPRING TOWN HALL

Please join President Indira Samarasekera for the annual Spring Town Hall. Following brief remarks, there will be an opportunity for questions and discussion relating to initiatives, events and issues of importance to the university community.

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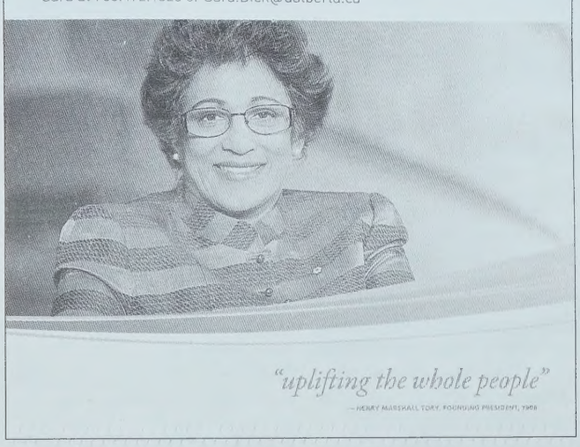

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surf city

The space shuttle Discovery was retired March 10, but not our desire to watch and explore the stars. Space (www.space.com) is the web's No. 1 source for astronomy, space exploration and related technology. From space flight to the quest for other life forms, Space presents the science behind the mysteries, with plenty of fantastic images and video to go along with the information—both detailed and quirky. On one hand, bacteria grown in space are deadlier than those grown on Earth and roses grown in space smell different. On the other hand, astronauts have discovered that you can't burp in zero gravity.

Thinking and learning inside the box

teaching & learning, learning & teaching

Richard Cairney

It's a familiar sight to engineering students: professor John Nychka strides into his materials engineering class holding a banker's box with a sticker on it that reads: "What's in the Box?"

It could be anything. One day it's a five-pound bag of silly putty. The next it's a torch and bobby pins; the next class it could be 50 feet of rubber hose.

But whatever the contents of the box, one thing is certain: Nychka will create a sense of adventure and tweak his students' curiosity to help them learn about the properties of different materials and how to manipulate them.

"This is pretty much the only materials course that many engineers ever take," said Nychka, a materials engineering professor. "It's a pretty fundamental thing. They're going to be designing things from different materials, so this is important."

Nychka says he was inspired in part by one of his own undergraduate teachers—who is now a colleague in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering.

"Suzanne Kresta did that for me," he said. "She made her students really want to learn."

Nychka says he follows a simple formula when it comes to teaching: "You create a room with a VUE," he said, adding that the "V" stands for visual learning, the "U" for unexpected results that expose knowledge gaps and create curiosity, and the "E" stands for engagement.

This term, Nychka has taken things a step further by giving students their own mystery boxes with which to conduct experiments in the lab portion of their class. Small, tin "What's in the Box?" boxes make up part of the course pack for Materials Engineering 101—a class all engineering students must take regardless of the engineering discipline they specialize in.

"What I've heard from the students is that it makes the labs more fun and that it keeps them engaged. Now, every student has the kit—it's like a mobile lab. They have the instruments to do the experiments and this kit helps them visualize the concepts they're learning."

Richard Cairney

John Nychka's "What's in the Box?" boxes are now available to students taking his course.

U of A hosts meeting looking at challenges of an aging population

Michael Davies-Venn

Social scientists from almost every continent came to the University of Alberta recently to develop a plan that will help address some of the pressing social issues faced by the world's aging population.

Norah Keating

"We want to foster capacity building and the creation and transfer of knowledge on international issues of population aging, with a focus toward creating a society for all ages," said Norah Keating, U of A ecology professor and organizer of the strategic planning meeting, which ran for three days starting March 30. "It seems to us, the ones who have developed this initiative, that population aging, when it's been highlighted, has been couched in an apocalyptic language of the costs to society.

"We aim to redress this one-dimensional understanding of aging and its impact on nations, communities and older people."

Deanna Williamson, chair of the U of A Department of Human Ecology, says the aim of the conference aligns with her department's work. "The research program developed would have important and significant implications for enhancing the well-being of older adults," she said. "This outcome is consistent with the mission of the department, which is to create a healthy human environment. It is humbling to have some of the world's best gerontology scholars here with us."

The meeting was made possible by a grant obtained by Keating from the Worldwide Universities Network Global Challenge competition fund. The network is a global alliance of 16 research-intensive universities drawn from the United Kingdom, Europe, North America, China and Australia. Issues surrounding an aging population are one of the areas where the university has taken a leading role within the organization.

"We are very pleased to have the WUN community on campus," said Carl Amrhein, provost and vice-president (academic), recognizing Keating's co-applicants from other member universities at the opening of the meeting. "International importance on health and welfare, care giving and bringing the world to Edmonton are some of the many things we talked about as we continue to internationalize this institution in ways that few schools have achieved."

> "We want to foster capacity building and the creation and transfer of knowledge on international issues of population aging, with a focus toward creating a society for all ages."
>
> Norah Keating

Keating chose the gathering to announce the launch of her Global Social Initiative on Aging, which she described as a high-profile initiative with potential to influence the lives of millions of older adults around the world. This initiative is now part of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics, which works to enhance the quality of life and well-being of older people worldwide through its membership and comprises more than 70 countries.

Du Peng, regional chair of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics for Asia and Oceania, says the nature of the concerns will differ between developed and developing countries.

"China has the biggest number of older persons in the world, about 170 million. As a developing country, we don't have the full coverage of social security," Peng said.

"In developed countries such as Japan, for example, it's not the same."

Heung Bong Cha, president of the association, agrees, saying developed countries have their own set of age-related problems. In 2001, there were 444,000 people over the age of 85 in Canada; by 2051 that number is expected to rise to almost two million.

"The main issues are longevity and healthy aging, the long-term care of older persons with chronic diseases," says Cha. "Another is social participation and activities in the communities, as well as family relations."

Refurbished computers Ecuador bound

Wanda Vivequin

Efforts by staff in the Department of Computing Science have resulted in 30 refurbished computers being shipped to Ecuador. The computers will accompany Edmonton members of the Canadian Association of Medical Teams Abroad, who have traveled to the country administering medical assistance over the last few years.

Department chair Mike McGregor said a meeting with medical staff at the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital in Edmonton over another project gave rise to the idea of donating unused computers from his department, and it was not long before computing science staff members Charles Jobagy, Rene Leiva and Rich Hughes were hard at work.

McGregor said each of the refurbished computers that had been lying in storage for between three and five years was completely cleaned up and reconfigured into working order. The three men dedicated themselves to the task and, when the time came to load the computers, all boxed up, onto the truck that would take them into the container destined for the hospital, all three were very pleased with the result.

Michael Holly

Charles Jobagy loads computers he helped refurbish into a van. The computers are bound for Ecuador.

"This is the first time we have donated computers overseas and I can't think of a better place to benefit from us giving them away," said McGregor. "These three staff certainly went above and beyond the call of duty to make this happen, and it's so wonderful that the donation of computers not being used really will have an unexpected social benefit."

The Canadian Association of Medical Teams Abroad is a group of medical and lay individuals dedicated to helping underprivileged people suffering from orthopedic problems in Ecuador. The U of A computers will travel with the group to a hospital funded through the Tierra Nueva Foundation, a non-profit non-governmental organization based in Ecuador.

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Andrea Morehouse has determined that cattle have become a mainstay in the diet of wolves. (Supplied photo)

Wolves do more than snack on cattle

Brian Murphy

In a two-year study that required tracking radio-collared wolves, University of Alberta graduate student Andrea Morehouse confirmed something ranchers had long suspected: their cattle had become a mainstay in the diet of local wolf packs.

"In southwestern Alberta during the summer, when ranchers let their cattle graze on public land—the home territory for local wolf packs—cows became 45 per cent of the summer diet for three wolf packs," said Morehouse. The researchers say summer grazing on public land coincides with the arrival of newborn wolf pups, which puts pressure on wolf packs to bring down large prey.

Morehouse says in the winter the wolves found easy pickings in cattle boneyards, the disposal sites on ranches where cattle killed by injury or sickness are disposed of.

"Often the boneyards were located within a few hundred metres of grazing cattle," said Morehouse. "They became a magnet for wolves, especially in the winter months, when we calculated that 85 per cent of the wolf scavenged-feeding events took place at cattle boneyards."

To perform the study, Morehouse and her research team monitored radio collars on four wolves in three different packs that operated over vast territories in southwestern Alberta. The collars sent out tracking beacons and housed another device that recorded detailed GPS location data.

"We used radio signals to find the general area where the wolves were moving about, and when we got close, we used a handheld device to upload a week's worth of hour-by-hour tracking information," said Morehouse.

On open terrain, the data uploads could be made from as far away as five kilometers from the wolves, but the researchers were not always that lucky.

On one field trip Morehouse remembers a long walk through a densely wooded area to get an upload of the wolf's movements. "We got quite a surprise when we plotted our GPS location on a map and compared it with the spot where the wolves had gathered," said Morehouse. "The trees and vegetation were so thick we didn't realize we were just 70 metres from the wolf pack."

The researchers looked for GPS clusters, the locations on the map where the wolves spent a lot of time, and went to a total of 698 sites where the wolves had gathered. They turned up locations where 50 cows were killed.

Morehouse says the combined effects of summer grazing in the wolf packs' territories and the strong attraction of boneyards for all predatory animals show a need for change.

"Our work shows the need for new management plans in the study area in order to reduce the opportunities for wolves to prey on cattle," said Morehouse.

Treatment for depression a long-term solution

Sandra Pysklywyc

Ian Colman, an epidemiologist in the School of Public Health, recently completed a study that suggests the treatment of depression may have long-term benefits.

The data Colman reviewed came from the *National Population Health Survey*, a longitudinal Canadian study that showed depressed adults who use antidepressants are three times less likely to be depressed eight years later, compared to depressed adults who don't use antidepressants.

To date, research into the effects of antidepressant treatments for individuals with major depression has only concentrated on short-term outcomes says Colman.

However, it's important to note that it's unlikely the effects are just the result of ongoing treatment, Colman says. "It's more likely that results from the study speak to the importance of getting evidence-based treatment, drugs or other therapies, in the first place and treatments that ensure that all of your symptoms are resolved."

While proper treatment is vital, Colman points to the importance of treatment that continues until an individual's symptoms have completely ceased.

"It's common that depressed individuals will have a partial remission of symptoms, when they feel better but some symptoms remain; those people have poor long-term outcomes," he says.

While depression can be a difficult topic to discuss in everyday conversation, Colman says recent research has shown more than 50 per cent of people who are depressed are not receiving treatment, possibly because they don't recognize symptoms, don't want treatment, or are not getting treatment due to stigma around mental illness.

Colman offers several options in order for treatment to be successful. Psychotherapy and cognitive behavioural therapy, for example, which focus on problem solving and skills building, help the patient deal with stressful situations, and have proved to have long-term beneficial outcomes.

"Evidence suggests that cognitive behavioural therapies are as effective as anti-depressants, and the two treatments together are even more effective," he says.

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Researcher finds fault with firefighter's gear tests

Michel Proulx

A University of Alberta professor has been developing a model for protective clothing that may make firefighters' jobs safer.

Current testing methods and standards of protective clothing systems for firefighters don't take into account stored thermal energy, which can sometimes lead to second-degree burns, says protective-clothing expert Guowen Song of the Department of Human Ecology.

His research sought to understand the phenomenon, measure it and incorporate it into a standard in order to predict as precisely as possible the performance of a clothing system and give a true textile protective performance, or TPP, value.

"Normally, people using a regular approach to testing the clothing's performance ignore thermal stored energy," he explains. "They assume they're predicting clothing performance but they're actually not."

While conducting his research, Song noticed energy was released when protective clothes were cooling after having been in a very hot environment.

"[The energy released] was huge," he says, "especially for the thicker layered systems, like those worn by firefighters."

He adds that when the contribution of stored energy is considered, the performance of the clothing system is much lower than had been assumed from the TPP value.

For example, the National Firefighters Protection Association has set a fundamental requirement that protective clothing for firefighters has a minimum TPP value of 35, which means the clothes can protect a person engulfed in a fire for 17.5 seconds. However, if you add the stored thermal energy variable to the equation, that time is reduced to about 12 seconds.

"It significantly changes the results," concludes Song. "The thermal stored energy can release to the human skin even after exposure. That's why people feel like they got burned or injured after the accident or incident. That's why burns sometimes occur later when they rest, take off their clothing and suddenly feel pain. That's the contribution from the thermal stored energy."

Song is working with the American Society for Testing and Materials to incorporate his findings into the voluntary standards established by the society to provide to better and more efficient protective clothing systems for firefighters.

> "Normally, people using a regular approach to testing the clothing's performance ignore thermal stored energy. They assume they're predicting clothing performance but they're actually not."
>
> Guowen Song

Michel Proulx

Guowen Song, seen here testing a fabric's resistance to fire, has found that stored thermal energy has an impact in protective clothing that isn't reflected in the testing standards.

The law of stairs: What goes up never stops

Michael Brown

For most people, anything that follows "running stairs" on a ranking of favourite activities would actually be at or near the bottom of the list. In the case of Tim Young, however, the only thing he likes better than his job as a programmer in the Faculty of Law is running stairs.

Young is long-distance stair runner and, by his estimation, is in line to set the world's fastest vertical mile. "The closest record I have been able to find in 3.29 steps per second in setting the record going up the CN tower in 1989. If you work out my cadence, my best is 5.39 steps per second," he says.

This isn't necessarily a talent that Young stumbled upon by accident. The 33-year-old self-taught computer programmer has spent virtually every lunch hour he has ever had during his 10-plus years at the university running anywhere from 11,000 to 15,000 stairs per day. Better said, he runs, typically two stairs at a time, a minimum of 16 laps of the Tory Building (approximately 20 floors when roof, basement and elongated flight distances are factored in) per day.

"I started running stairs for figure-skating training," said Young. "I wanted to jump higher and stairs are excellent for footwork as well, but eventually I figured out this allows me to do whatever I want to do. It is the ultimate method for training."

With dreams of figure skating glory left behind on a stair landing long past, Young now sees stair running as an entry point to just about any distance-related sport.

"I have my eye on biathlon and back-country alpine touring competitively. Those are two sports that I want to start to including in my training," said Young, who, as part of his stair training, spends a chunk of his day in the university pool. "My philosophy is I just always want to be operating at an Olympic level, not necessarily at the Olympics, but maybe one day.

"I'm pretty sure I'm going to be one of those 85-year-olds who is running death races. I am just going to be ramping it up just as long as I can, and I think I have a lot of years before I see any sort of decline."

Whether the Olympics come or not, Young is quite content to train and continue to ply his trade at the university.

"I like that I have a lot of variety in what I do," said Young. "I like the people I work for and work with, and I enjoy being able to make life easy for people.

"You can't beat the atmosphere at the university. I like being around the students, and being in a place surrounded by intellectuals and experts in different fields."

> "My philosophy is I just always want to be operating at an Olympic level, not necessarily at the Olympics, but maybe one day."
>
> Tim Young

KVLM Studios

Tim Young figures he is in line to set the world's fastest vertical mile.

Study finds warning labels better than a fat tax

Bev Betkowski

Warning labels on junk food would be more effective than a "fat" tax for deterring overweight people from making unhealthy purchases, a new University of Alberta study has found.

A survey of 364 shoppers in random Alberta grocery stores showed that while price alone wouldn't deter people from reaching for junk food, shoppers—including those with the heaviest body mass index—did heed a label that warned of high fat content and included a note that the item was being taxed because of it.

The study asked shoppers to choose between high-fat and healthier snacks in the 50-cent to $2 range. Some of the items came with a hypothetical warning label. The responses were analyzed and showed three different groups of consumers. While two of the groups were already sensitive to either price or less healthy snacks and tended to avoid them, one of the groups—the one with the highest body weight—seemed deterred only by the warning label.

"The consumers who heeded the label didn't care about the price but responded to the warning and were much less likely to buy the snack," said Sean Cash, an adjunct professor of rural economy at the U of A, who led the study, along with professor Vic Adamowicz and graduate student Ryan Lacanilao.

The researchers theorize that warning labels pack a bigger behavioural punch because they are far more noticeable than the price differences that would result from snack taxes. Therefore, including warning labels on unhealthy foods would be a better option than a fat tax, which has already been implemented in varying degrees in the United States and is being considered for Canada.

"Based on the reaction of shoppers, a tax seems to be the least effective for the people you want to reach most," Cash noted. "If you want to use the tax to change the habits of consumers, it won't be effective. A nickel here and there in tax isn't going to change behaviour in a big way."

Instead, people will likely get around the tax by buying in bulk to save money, he added. "For instance, buying less soda pop is a rational response to a tax, but so is buying cheaper soda. A perverse outcome can actually happen."

The study was published in the latest edition of *The Journal of Consumer Affairs*, and was funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Canada Foundation for Innovation and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Bev Betkowski

Warning labels on junk food may be a better deterrent than a fat tax.

True North colours

Andrew Grabia

Garrett Epp, professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, wears his Maple Leaf (Canada) tartan kilt April 6 along with green and gold socks to celebrate Tartan Day. The distinctive green-and-red pattern—inspired by the shifting hues of autumn leaves—was designed along with the Canadian flag in 1964, but not officially adopted as the Canadian tartan until last month.

EDMONTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The 2011 Taste of the Chamber Food & Beverage Mixer

For the twelfth year in a row, the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce brings you an evening of elegant food and fine beverages. Edmonton's finest hotels, restaurants, caterers and beverage representatives will be showcasing their products. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy the best Edmonton has to offer. Must be 18 or older to attend. Bring your employees and friends!

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5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Jubilee Auditorium
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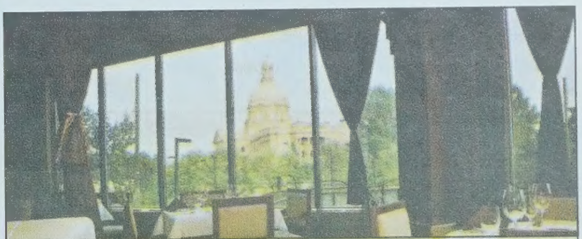
For tickets, visit www.edmontonchamber.com



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Be seen

U of A gamers take to the red carpet

Scott Rollans

The University of Alberta's Computing Science Centre isn't always a focal point for red-carpet glamour and excitement. But local paparazzi might want to circle April 20 on their calendars—the date of this year's CMPUT 250 Award Ceremony.

For the last several years, the computers and games course has celebrated the end of term with a fun, Oscars-style event, showcasing the computer game projects created by student teams during the year.

"We have five categories of awards, such as excellence in writing and dialogue, excellence in art, and so on," explains Vadim Bulitko, now wrapping up his second year teaching the course. "And the very last award is for the best game overall—the game of the year. In every category we present the nominees, and for every nomination we show a little clip from the game. And then we say, 'And the winner is . . .'"

For students like Derek Dowling and his team, who are currently putting the final touches on their own game, the ceremony marks the end of a hectic, stressful journey. "It's just like we were told," laughs Dowling. "You think you have a lot of time, but then the deadline starts coming up and all of a sudden you're spending huge amounts of time getting it ready.

"But it's fun," Dowling is quick to add. "We're building a video game, so you can't really complain."

Dowling, a second-year computing science student, says he has particularly enjoyed working with teammates from other disciplines and faculties. "As a guy who's not very artistic, it was nice. We have two art guys on our team, and some writers—things that I'm not necessarily good at. I was excited to make a better-rounded project, with a bunch of people who aren't necessarily computing science students.

"Including me, we have six guys on our team. Two computing science students, one industrial design student, one fine arts student and two psychology students."

The psychological influence shines through in Dowling's description of the team's project. "Our game is called *Deserted*. It's a story about a young man named Sam Foster. The setting is kind of Western-themed, late-1800s. His father abandons him at a young age. So it's Sam's goal to figure out why his father left him—to clear up the story and make peace with his father."

The eight teams—four from each term—construct their projects using the game engine from Neverwinter Nights, a classic title from Edmonton-based gaming company BioWare. Personnel from the company also contribute directly to the course.

"They come in three times during the term," Bulitko explains. "They do one lecture on level design, using examples from their commercial games. Then, when the students have their games almost ready, they come in to watch their trailers, listen to their pitches, and give them some feedback. And then they come in at the very end, for an hour-and-a-half question-and-answer session, where any student can ask them any question."

The BioWare connection is a key part of the course's success, says Bulitko. "BioWare is one of the top game companies in the world, especially in their area, which is role-playing games—RPGs. Receiving feedback on the games from somebody at such a high level, who's so recognized in the industry, is very helpful to the students."

The CMPUT 250 Award Ceremony takes place at 2 p.m. April 20, in CSC B-02.

U of A cracks top 100 in world IT and engineering-specific rank

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta has landed itself in the top 100 in all five of the QS World University Rankings' first-ever ranking of individual technical subjects.

These individual information technology and engineering ranks were divided along natural groupings, which included mechanical, aeronautical and manufacturing, civil and structural engineering, computer science and information systems, chemical engineering and electrical engineering.

> "These rankings are a strong indication that we are making an impact in the global academic community."
>
> Indira Samarasekera

To date, no specific rank has been given to the institutions ranked between 51 and 100. Within each individual indicator, science and information systems at the U of A scored high marks for employer reputation and citations, while academic reputation for the U of A's civil engineering program edged out the U of A's academic reputation for work done in chemical engineering.

"These rankings are a strong indication that we are making an impact in the global academic community," said President Indira Samarasekera. "Although this is only one component of several benchmarks that we use to measure our progress, I am encouraged to see that our excellence in computer science and information systems; civil and structural engineering, chemical engineering, electrical engineering and mechanical, aeronautical and manufacturing are receiving international attention."

According to QS World University Rankings officials, the ranking by subject responds to a need for comparative data that looks at specific areas of expertise in the institutions. As its centrepiece, the ranking uses academic reputation, which is gathered thanks to a short survey of more than 15,000 academics. Relevant employers are also polled about their recruitment tendencies. The ranking also factors in citations per paper.

In 2010, the overall QS World University Ranking had the U of A ranked 78th in the world, with a ranking of 74th in the category of engineering and IT.

Public Presentation by

Dr. Marianne Douglas, director of the Canadian Circumpolar Institute University of Alberta

As part of the process of her review as Director of the Canadian Circumpolar Institute, Marianne Douglas will be making a public presentation on:

Wednesday, April 20
at 9 a.m.
in
2-1 University Hall
(Council Chambers)

The format for the meeting will include a presentation by Dr. Douglas followed by a question and answer session moderated by Associate Vice-President (Research) George Pavlich. The meeting will conclude by 10:30 a.m.

One element of the CCI Director review process is to invite feedback from the University community, and anyone wishing to comment on Dr Douglas's presentation or other aspects of her work as Director is invited to contact Katharine Moore, Review Committee Secretary, by email at katharine.moore@ualberta.ca or by phone at 780-492-0868.

Comments should be received by Wednesday, April 27 at 4:30 p.m.

The records that arise from this review will be managed in accordance with the provisions of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

CCI 50 years
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Musculoskeletal research the Woodhouse way

Laurie Wang

She's a leading research clinician, she's originally from Montreal, and she cheers for the—brace yourself—the Toronto Maple Leafs. Meet Linda Woodhouse, the new Dr. David Magee Endowed Chair in Musculoskeletal Research.

Last summer, the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine announced the creation of its first endowed research chair, named after one of the world's foremost physical therapists: the Dr. David Magee Endowed Chair in Musculoskeletal Research. Harold and Cathy Roozen donated $1.5 million to establish the chair in the name of the internationally recognized physical therapist, author, associate dean and professor in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine.

Linda Woodhouse

The research chair will maximize the physical therapy care of patients. It is aimed at finding improved methods of clinical assessment for arthritis, injury prevention and treatments for sports injuries and low-back pain. It is for clinical research, impacting patients directly.

This March, the faculty announced the appointment of its inaugural chair holder, Linda Woodhouse, a leading research-clinician from the School of Rehabilitation Medicine at McMaster University. Woodhouse has made significant contributions to the development and evaluation of models for inter-professional care for patients accessing hip and knee surgery. She has also developed innovative clinical programs for patients with osteoarthritis and osteoporosis and for cancer survivors who receive conservative treatments in the community. She will be joining the faculty on June 1.

"The Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine is unique in Canada in that it is the only free-standing faculty. My impression is that the faculty is composed of extremely dedicated individuals who are forward thinking and extremely entrepreneurial in their approach to research, education and clinical practice," said Woodhouse.

"I think we have come a long way in terms of understanding the deleterious effects of rest and immobility on tissue repair. This has resulted in a focus on maintaining mobility and active approaches to manage musculoskeletal disorders. I think we need more dose-response studies to optimize treatment regimens," she said. "I also see the future as focusing on translational research that bridges research from bench to bedside to the community. Translational research really needs to occur in both directions simultaneously—translating basic science into the clinic and vice versa."

Woodhouse says her impression of Alberta's research culture is that there are pockets of fantastic work going on across the province—from basic science through to the application of findings in clinical practice—but she adds she would like to see clinical findings drive bench research.

"Some of the challenges include the current economic times, which have resulted in health-care cutbacks, widespread mergers of health-care organizations across Alberta, and recently, some leadership changes," she said. "With an aging and growing population, the demands on the health-care system to better manage musculoskeletal disease are increasing. This is particularly true as the generation of baby boomers, who demand quick access to high quality service, are reaching their osteoarthritic years.

"The escalation in demand for musculoskeletal service, coupled with increased rates of obesity that are associated with development of musculoskeletal diseases, means that we must be innovative in our approaches to provide effective care."

> "My impression is that the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine is composed of extremely dedicated individuals who are forward thinking and extremely entrepreneurial in their approach to research, education and clinical practice."
>
> Linda Woodhouse

Students of dental hygiene attend to long-term care needs

Quinn Phillips

For the first time, third-year dental-hygiene students are going to long-term care facilities to inspect the teeth of residents who don't often receive oral health treatment.

In an effort to expand the experiences of students, Sharon Compton and Sandy Cobban, professors in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, have developed a new practicum that sends third-year dental hygiene students to long-term care facilities in Edmonton—Jasper Place Continuing Care Centre and St. Joseph's Auxiliary Hospital—every Tuesday to do oral assessments on the residents.

"If the students aren't exposed to this kind of work, I would propose they'd be much less likely to take it upon themselves to get involved in this kind of care," said Compton. "We give our students a tonne of experience in the regular practice model; however, there are other areas where they could enhance their dental hygiene practice.

"One of those areas is in long-term care facilities."

Many residents in long-term care facilities have early dementia and, thus, can often have a hard time communicating the pain in their mouth, which can cause problems, including not eating properly. The poor oral health of these residents can lead to a higher risk of many problems, including pneumonia or heart disease.

"In being able to perform a routine assessment, we're able to identify problems either before they get to the point that the person is in pain, or identify the people who are in pain who haven't been assessed yet," said Compton.

For logistical reasons students cannot do treatment at the facilities, but students can still learn.

"What we are hoping to do is to help them negotiate, facilitate and advocate for the person to get the care done," said Compton.

Forty-seven students are in the program and eight students are at the facilities every Tuesday through the semester. Kim Schowler is one of those students and says she has enjoyed the opportunity.

"It's nice to come into long-term care facilities and even talk to patients who maybe have dementia and can no longer do the oral health care themselves," said Schowler. "Even just educating the caregivers here and letting them know how they can help the residents is great."

The hope is that this practicum will continue past this first year and will expand to a number of continuing care facilities in Edmonton. "I've had five facilities already indicate that they would like dental hygiene students to come and provide oral health assessments and education."

Dean says arts researchers have risen to global challenges

Michael Davies-Venn

The role of arts researchers in tackling the global challenges surrounding water, energy and food took centre stage during the Faculty of Arts Annual Celebration of Research and Creative Work March 28.

"We do research that is incredibly relevant, even at its most esoteric," said Lesley Cormack, dean of the Faculty of Arts, to the crowd of arts researchers gathered at the Faculty Club. "We don't have to simply do practical applications to be seen to be doing research that matters to the world today.

"There's exciting research going on in the faculty, and I do think that the work we do can transform the society that we live in."

The world's emerging focus on water, energy and food was also the focus of a recent World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, which was attended by U of A President Indira Samarasekera. Upon her return, Samarasekera shared her thoughts about the role the university could play in resolving these issues with Cormack and other deans.

"By challenging us to think about how we look at those three themes, the president showed us that the research we do is as important as is done in other areas, and is of particular interest to the world," said Cormack.

Using an example of recent events where arts researchers were called upon to provide vital practical impact on the world, Cormack cited the cholera outbreak in Haiti in 2010. "The reason it was difficult to cure cholera in Haiti was not because we don't know how to cure cholera; it's because civil society had broken down. It was a problem for social scientists as much as it was for medical researchers."

The celebration also provided an opportunity to learn about research across the faculty.

John-Paul Himka, history professor and winner of the 2011 J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research, spoke on his current research, which he says helps dispel historical Ukrainian nationalist myths.

"One of the areas of contention is the interpretation of the great famine that racked Ukraine in 1932–33," he said. "In the mythicized version, Stalin unleashed the famine deliberately in order to kill Ukrainians en masse and, thus, prevent them from achieving their aspirations to establish a national state," Himka said. "I, however, point out that the pre-condition for the famine was the reckless collectivization drive, which almost destroyed Soviet agriculture as a whole."

Himka stressed that, although his work is historical, it has the potential to help reconcile many issues Ukraine faces today.

"During the last Ukraine elections, in one region where this myth is very popular, the neo-fascist party received 30 per cent of the vote. Without addressing these issues, Ukraine's chances of joining the European Union will be less if it is branded as a neo-fascist country that hasn't come to terms with its past in the Second World War."

André Plourde, associate dean (research) in Faculty of Arts, says the celebration provides an opportunity to learn about research and creative activities across the faculty.

"This celebration gives an incredible representation of work done in the faculty and the breadth and relevance of the research and creative activity in the faculty on these themes."

> "There's exciting research going on in the faculty, and I do think that the work we do can transform the society that we live in."
>
> Leslie Cormack

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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Girls get into healthy moving at physical literacy camp

A spring-break camp has taken on a whole new meaning this week for girls taking part in the pilot WINGS program at the Tri-Leisure Centre in Spruce Grove.

The program, which is named to represent Water, Ice, Nature, Ground, Air, Snow, is a physical literacy camp for young female athletes aged eight to 10 and is based on the Canadian Sport for Life initiative, which provides age-appropriate guidelines for involvement in physical activity and sport.

Vicki Harber and two WINGS participants.

Developed by Vicki Harber, a researcher in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, the camp aims to challenge girls' perception of sport and create opportunities for them to understand the way they move and why it's important to move properly.

The camp is what Harber calls the "translation piece" from her recent McCalla Professorship, a university award that aims to provide faculty members with an opportunity to implement strategies integrating their research and teaching.

Jerry Friesen resigns as Golden Bears football coach

After 10 seasons patrolling the sidelines as head coach of the U of A Golden Bears Football Program, Jerry Friesen announced his resignation, effective March 31, in order to pursue other opportunities.

Friesen was named head coach of the football program in 2001 and amassed a career conference record of 36-40, along with four playoff wins. In 2004 and 2005 he guided the Evergreen and Gold to back-to-back 7-1 seasons and two straight Canada West championship games.

"Golden Bears and Pandas Athletics, and the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, would like to thank Jerry for his hard work, dedication and the passion he brought to Golden Bears Football during his time as head coach," said Vang Ioannides, acting director of athletics. "We wish him nothing but the best for the future."

St. Joseph's College president announced

The board of governors of St. Joseph's College is pleased to announce the appointment of Rev. Terence Kersch as president, effective July 1. Kersch replaces Rev. Timothy Scott, who was elected last summer to the General Council of the Basilian Fathers.

Kersch holds a master's degree in divinity from the University of St. Michael's College and a doctorate in political science from the University of British Colombia. He comes to the U of A from Toronto with significant experience in scholarship, administration and leadership in the Basilian Fathers.

PhD student wins coveted women-in-engineering prize

A U of A PhD student has emerged as role model for women in engineering after joining the illustrious list of Canadian Engineering Foundation scholarship recipients.

Jennifer Nafziger, water-resource grad student in the Faculty of Engineering, has been named the 2011 Claudette MacKay-Lassonde Scholarship winner.

This prestigious $15,000 scholarship is awarded annually to the most promising woman in a graduate engineering program at the PhD level in Canada.

"My extra-curricular activities have shaped who I am today and have made me a strong role model by demonstrating my knowledge, passion and commitment to community," says Nafziger, who focuses her research on developing computer models of river ice jams. "My goal is to inspire others to follow their scientific interests while dispelling myths about my profession. Engineering is cool, engineering means solving interesting and important problems, and it's a job for both women and men."

An evening of hope for Japan after the destruction

In an effort to keep the world's focus on Japan in the wake of the tsunami that devastated the island nation last month, U of A members of the Japan Association of Graduate Students at Alberta are holding a memorial event April 11.

The event, Evening of Hope for Japan, will bring the acting consul-general of Japan in Calgary, Shinichiro Hayashi, to the U of A to give an update on the aftermath. Reg Eadie, U of A chemical and materials engineering professor, will also be on hand to lecture on nuclear energy and accidents. The night will also feature a performance with a taiko, a traditional Japanese performance drum, as well as a silent auction. All proceeds from the event will go to the Red Cross for relief efforts in Japan. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. at the TELUS Centre A. Admission is $5.

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Design course balloons into something special

Ryan Heise

Brendan Smith, Jed Lim and Kevin Shikaze watch as the culmination of their four years of engineering—and in some ways their undergraduate degrees—drifts through the U of A Butterdome.

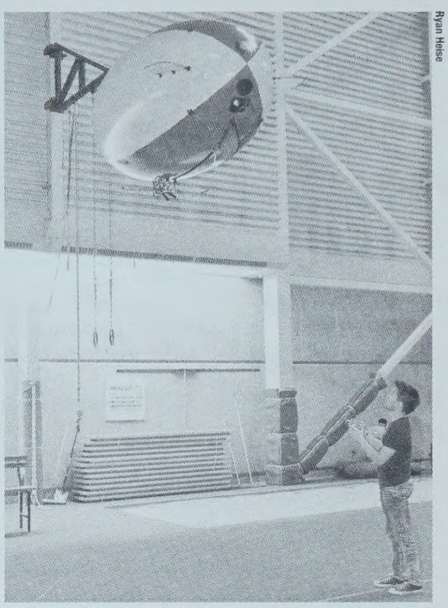
After countless hours working on their capstone design project, the electrical engineering students are as silent as their blimp, watching for any signs of problems or malfunctions, cautiously making sure it stays on course,and being relieved that their first real test flight is going well.

"This is literally the first 30 seconds of testing," Smith said, not taking his eyes off the blimp. "This is the first opportunity to fly it in a big space."

Capstone projects are created to allow undergraduate engineering students to apply their classroom knowledge in practical ways, challenge students to create something that goes beyond textbooks and lectures. The goal of the trio's project was to create a vehicle that can remotely or autonomously survey large indoor areas such as a warehouse or convention floor. For the blimp project, Smith developed the control software, while Lim and Shikaze worked on the electrical and mechanical systems.

For students in the course, this lift off marks the end of late nights in labs applying their knowledge and solving engineering problems during their capstone design courses.

The blimp design team's efforts are paying off and the students are left with time to tweak their final design and polish their presentation. Others are still putting the final touches on their projects. On April 9 and 10 students will present their projects to panels of judges from industry and academia, and have the projects graded.



Ryan Heise

Jed Lim prepares his capstone project, a remote-controlled and autonomous blimp, for its first test flight.

Based on the time students put into the capstones, their projects are a serious matter.

"It was basically a full-time job. In fact, I wouldn't be surprised if we put in more hours than a full-time job," Smith said.

Smith knows all too well the toll late nights and unforeseen problems can have on students but says the end result, especially after four years of engineering education, is worth it.

"Of course it's stressful, but it's very interesting at the same time," Smith said. "I don't think you could have the degree without these design projects. It's so useful to be able to do real design. Solving problem sets is one thing. Spending late nights in the lab solving real problems is another."

Museums and Collections celebrates volunteers and staff

Jennifer Kuchta

The TELUS Centre atrium took on a distinctly carnivalesque-feel on March 23 as more than 150 people gathered to celebrate all things museums on campus. This was the eighth annual University of Alberta Museums Celebration and Awards Ceremony, recognizing volunteer and staff contributions to the 28 museum collections on campus.

Volunteers contributions to the U of A Museums enables the community, both on campus and beyond, to learn about the natural and cultural heritage preserved by the U of A Museums.

The 2011 Volunteers of the Year included Tristan Ellenberger, a graduate student from the Department of History and Classics, and Allison Brett, an undergraduate student from the Department of Human Ecology. Ellenberger was recognized for his ongoing service to the W.G. Hardy Collection of Ancient Near Eastern and Classical Antiquities. Brett was acknowledged for her dedication to the Clothing and Textiles Collection.

New to the awards ceremony this year was the introduction of a Curator Hall of Fame, honouring long-serving curators of the U of A Museums. Says Chancellor Linda Hughes, "all of these former curators have truly gone above-and-beyond to make their respective collections into lasting legacies for future generations of students and researchers at the University of Alberta."

This year's inductees include; husband-and-wife research team professors emeriti Ruth Gruhn and the late Alan Bryan, for their work in the Department of Anthropology with the Bryan/Gruhn Archaeology and Bryan/Gruhn Ethnographic Collections; professor emeritus Ronald Burwash, for his work with the Petrology Collection in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences; professor Anne Lambert, founder of the Clothing and Textiles Collection, in the Department of Human Ecology; and professor emeritus Mark Wilson, from the Department of Biological Sciences, for his work with the Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology.

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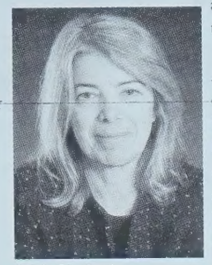
Understanding the potential catastrophic cost of chronic illness

Michael Ulrich

Chronic diseases are a growing epidemic, and there have been repeated calls for intersectoral and multilevel action involving academia, governments, civil society and the financial sector worldwide to generate innovative solutions.



Sylvie Stachenko

On March 24, the University of Alberta's School of Public Health brought together a group of leading economists, development bankers and health policymakers for a panel presentation at the U of A's Calgary Centre. The group focused on the economic risk of chronic disease and the implications this emerging crisis has for every global community.

"The need is for champions across all sectors," said Sylvie Stachenko, dean of the School of Public Health, who chaired the discussion and was instrumental in bringing together the influential panelists.

Among those who spoke was André Corriveau, chief medical officer of health for Alberta Health and Wellness. Corriveau highlighted the need in Alberta for education to play a primary role in addressing the increasing number of people at risk for chronic disease. He also mentioned that technology will need to advance in order to meet the growing demand for care.

Jane Billings, senior assistant deputy minister with the Public Health Agency of Canada, provided a national perspective on the mounting chronic disease epidemic. "Four out of five Canadians currently have a risk factor for chronic disease," said Billings, adding that "societal changes are responsible."

Billings also highlighted the need for improved education and touched on several prevention campaigns that are working well across the country, including a ban on junk food in Ontario schools and Manitoba's "in motion" campaign, which encourages residents to make physical activity a part of their daily lives.

Economist Rachel Nugent, deputy director of global health for the Center for Global Development, delivered an overview of the main challenge facing those trying to fight the rise of chronic diseases worldwide: a lack of funding. Nugent believes there is a tremendous need for the financial community to join arms with health-care providers to tackle chronic diseases, but that will only become possible if the two sides begin working together.

The panel presentation served as an excellent lead-in on the eve of the 2011 Inter-American Development Bank Annual Meetings, also held in Calgary. The discussion was a stepping stone to the upcoming UN Summit on Non-Communicable Diseases, which will be held in New York in September 2011.

The goal of the summit—at which the School of Public Health will be represented—is to develop a global strategy to address the four most prominent non-communicable diseases: cancers, cardiovascular diseases, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes.

The School of Public Health is committed to meet the growing demand for excellent and relevant interdisciplinary research that creates links between new knowledge and public health policy in order to positively impact the global fight against chronic diseases, said Stachenko.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on Express News at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until June 24

The Last Best West: Glimpses of the Prairie Provinces from the Golden Age of Postcards. This exhibition of postcards is from the settlement and urbanization of the Canadian Northwest. The Peel's Prairie Provinces postcard collection contains thousands of fascinating and informative images, including personalized views of first houses, farms and family groups, as well as important events, disasters and buildings. Admission is free. Exhibition catalogues are available for $25. Noon–4:30 p.m. Lower level, South Rutherford Library.

Until April 28

Corpus II: An Exhibition of Art Exploring the Human Body. This exhibit by 2010/2011 Life Drawing Session participants presents a diverse range of drawings, paintings, mixed media pieces and more. These non-instructional sessions are an opportunity for students and staff from all areas of the Department of Art and Design to meet and work from a live model. South Foyer Rutherford Library.

April 8

On Respecting Persons in End-of-Life Care. The objectives of this session is to review the ethical principles of respect for persons and respect for autonomy, discuss the ethical and legislative foundations for substitute decision-making and identify strategies for optimizing decision-making for adults at various stages of decline. Noon–12:45 p.m. 1J2.13WMC University of Alberta Hospital (Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre).

History & Classics LH Thomas Distinguished Lecture Series: "The Letter of Philip to the Athenians." Jeremy Trevett, Department of History at York University, will give a talk entitled, "The Letter of Philip to the Athenians," where he will examine the letter, purportedly from the Macedonian king Philip II to the Athenians, that is preserved among the speeches of Demosthenes as Dem. 12. It explores the letter's authenticity, its date, its relationship to Dem. 11 "Response to the Letter of Philip" and the rhetorical strategies employed in it. 4–5:30 p.m. 1-6 Alberta School of Business.

April 11

Getting Back to Basics: Recommendations for U.S. Immigration Reform in the Modern Economy. Patrick Forrest, U.S. Department of Homeland Security and George Washington University Law School, will address the consequences of the American immigration system, not the cause of the failures, and recommends reforms to the U.S. immigration that meet market needs and targets the issues resulting in the current broken immigration system. Noon. 150 TELUS Centre.

Inaugural Professorial Lectures. Adrian Wagg, professor in the Department of Medicine, will give a talk entitled, "All that Glisters: A Journey into the (Relatively) Unknown World of Wee." Michael Hendzel, professor in the Department of Oncology, will give a talk entitled, "The Cell Nucleus: Still a Black Box." 5–7 p.m. Allard Family Lecture Theatre Katz Group Centre for Pharmacy and Health Research.

April 11–14

EH Boomer Memorial Invited Lecturer. Mark Wightman, professor of chemistry at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will give four lecture presentations entitled "Electrochemical Detection of Neurotransmitters: A Historical Perspective." 4–5 p.m. 243 CAB 243 (April 11 & 14), 2022 Dentistry/Pharmacy (April 12 & 13).

April 12

Public Health Colloquium Series. Our colloquium series provides an opportunity for participants to learn from faculty, post-doctoral fellows and PhD students who share their current research. Anita Kozyrskyj will present "Synergy in Microbiota Research." Noon, 12:50 p.m. Room 3-06 University Terrace.

Turbulence and Internal Waves at Rough Bottom Topography. Sutanus Sarkar, professor in the Sutanus Sarkar mechanical and aerospace department at the University of California, San Diego, will be on hand to talk about how localized sites of rough topography are thought to play a critical role in accomplishing mixing in the stratified rotating ocean. Direct and large eddy simulations that resolve turbulence constitute a powerful tool to characterize, understand and parameterize mixing processes whose genesis is at boundaries. 2–3 p.m. 2-020 Natural Resources Engineering Facility.

Diversity and the Workplace. Candy Khan, City of Edmonton; Darcy Yamada, Ernst and Young Corporate Finance; and Mary Banda, Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton, will be on hand to discuss defining diversity, especially in workplace environments, and the specific challenges and possibilities with that goal in mind. 3:30–5 p.m. 7-152 Education Centre North.

April 13

Last Day of Classes. Come and celebrate the last day of classes. Enjoy free goodies (cookies and punch). 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. HUB International.

Talk by Pulitzer Prize winner Stacy Schiff. Schiff will talk about her No. 1 bestseller and New York Times Best Book of 2010, "Cleopatra: A Life." 6:30 p.m. Auditorium Pavillon McMahon, Campus Saint-Jean.

April 18

Canadian Institutes of Health Research – Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis. CIHR integrates research through an interdisciplinary structure made up of 13 virtual institutes, each led by a scientific director who is in turn aided by a scientific advisory board. Come learn about the IMHA and where it is headed. 10–11 a.m. 1-040 Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation.

Large-Scale Phenotype-Driven Mutagenesis Screen for New Mouse Models of Human Bone Disease. Jane Aubin, professor in the Department of Molecular Genetics at the University of Toronto, and researcher in the Centre for Modeling Human Disease, will be on hand to give this talk. 2–3 p.m. 1-040 Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation.

April 23

Easter Egg Hunt. RSVP online or call 780-492-6530. 12:45 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall. www.ualberta.ca/alumni.

Ukrainian pysanky

Supplied

Natalie Kononenko, professor of Ukrainian folklore, lends a hand at The Kule Centre for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore's annual Easter egg decorating workshop March 31.

laurels

Norbert Morgenstern, Distinguished University Professor (emeritus), received the 2011 H. Bolton Seed Medal from the American Society of Civil Engineers March 13. The medal was awarded for exceptional contributions and outstanding productivity in education, research and consulting that have profoundly enhanced engineering practice in slope stability and dam design. On the occasion, Morgenstern delivered the 2011 H. Bolton Seed Lecture on the theme of "Risk and Reward: Geotechnical Engineering and the Alberta Oilsands."

Florence Myrick, professor in the Faculty of Nursing, has been selected as the 2011 Pat Griffin Nursing Education Research Scholar by the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing.

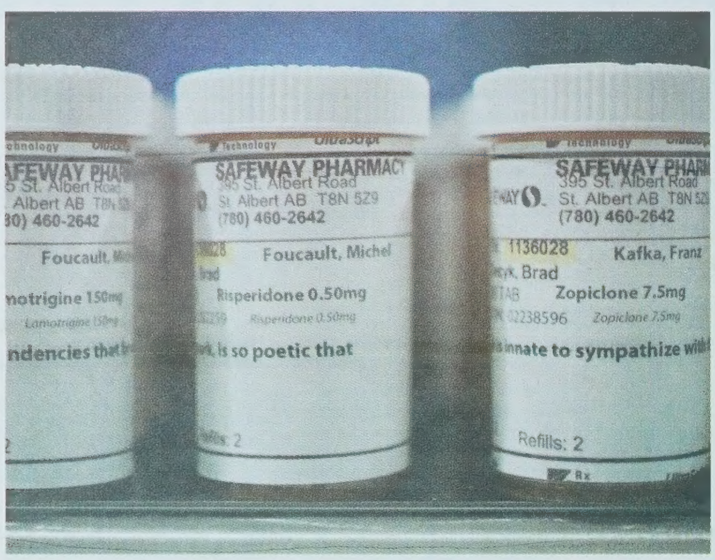
Jonathan Martin, professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, has received the Fred Beamish Award from the Canadian Society for Chemistry for innovation in research in analytical chemistry.

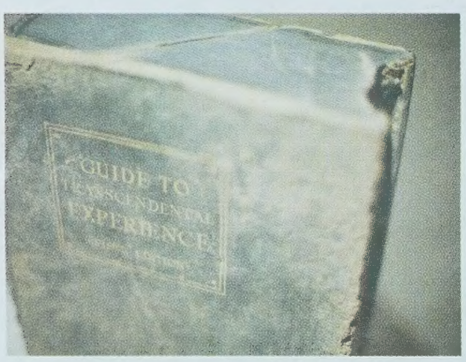
Fred West, professor in the Department of Chemistry, has won the Alfred Bader Award from the Canadian Society for Chemistry, in recognition of excellence in research in organic chemistry.

Chris Le, professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, has received the Maxxam Award from the Canadian Society for Chemistry, and Environment Division Research and Development Award from the Chemical Institute of Canada, for his distinguished contributions to the field of environmental chemistry.

Sean Caulfield, professor in the Department of Art and Design, has been appointed to the title of Centennial Professor for a period of seven years, effective July 1. The title of Centennial Professor, one of the university's highest honours, is in recognition of the individual's outstanding record of creative research, teaching and service.

Photos: Michael Holly, Marketing and Communication Services





From Soul to Seawater

From Soul to Seawater is the title of this year's Department of Art and Design BFA graduating exhibition. The show features the work of 21 talented young artists who have completed their bachelor of fine arts in painting, sculpture, printmaking, drawing and intermedia. The exhibition is presented in the Fine Arts Building Gallery from April 5 to 16. The gallery is open 10 a.m.–5 p.m. from Tuesday to Friday and 2 p.m.–5 p.m. on Saturdays.

Madonna Mikhail, *Overload*, 2011 (detail), Plaster and Pigment (top)
Brad Necyk, *Contemplations on Mythology* (detail), 2010 Mixed Media (centre left)
Madonna Mikhail, *Threaded Generations*, 2011, Fabric, Sequins, Beads (centre right)
Jennifer Konanz, *Guide to Transcendental Experience*, 2010, Concrete, Digital Output on Paper (bottom left)

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 2
And the winners are . . .
University announces its undergraduate teaching award winners

Page 4
Connecting donors
University welcomes President's Society

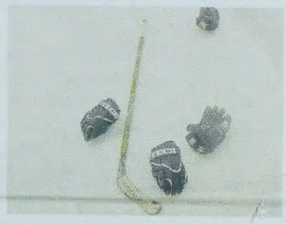
Page 6
Big art
Liz Ingram's exploration of water finds a home in Calgary

Volume 48 Issue 16 | April 22, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

U of A hockey expert says violence has always been part of the game

Jane Hurly

When violence erupts on the ice during Canada's favourite game, there are those who love it and want more, and those who decry it. Either way, invariably the question gets asked: is hockey becoming more violent?



Violence in hockey has a long history

Absolutely not, says Dan Mason, a business of hockey expert at the University of Alberta. "I don't think the game is any more violent today than it was in the past," he says. "The problem with today's hockey is that you have bigger, faster, stronger players, so the severity of the injuries is greater, and when they hit each other, they're more likely to hurt each other."

Media and technology play a big role as well. Incidents are magnified more today, thanks to action filmed from multiple angles, super slow-motion and instant replays, he says.

Mason says the media attention given to the hit dished out by Boston Bruins defenseman Zdeno Chara on Montreal Canadiens forward Max Pacioretty in early March had people who don't even watch hockey taking an interest in the incident.

"Thanks to the media, we've seen that hit over and over again," said mason. "Yet on YouTube there are many examples of egregious behaviours by hockey players and violence in the NHL that happened in the past that were equally violent but were not treated the same way by the public."

Continued on page 2

Stress ball, U of A style

Michael Holly

Two students take a break from cramming for finals to roll a giant snowball in Quad April 18.

Honorary degree recipients inspire, advocate and build

Folio Staff

The University of Alberta will honour 12 inspiring individuals with honorary degrees this June.

"Each of these honorary degree recipients inspires us with their dedication to excellence in learning, discovery and citizenship, here at home and across the globe," said Chancellor Linda Hughes.

The following 12 recipients of the university's highest honour will deliver addresses during convocation ceremonies at Augustana Campus in Camrose on June 5 and in Edmonton June 7 to 15.

Craig Kielburger, founder of the international children's charity Free the Children and co-founder of Me to We, a social enterprise which is designed to help support Free the Children, is a leading Canadian children's rights activist who empowers young people in the developed world to make a difference. One of the youngest recipients of the Order of Canada, he will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree at 2:30 p.m. on June 5 during centenary celebrations at the U of A's Augustana Campus in Camrose.

Ron Triffo was instrumental in transforming Stantec Inc. from a private regional civil engineering firm to one of North America's largest public multi-disciplined engineering and architectural design firms. He is chair of Alberta Innovates – Technology Futures and a past chair of the Alberta Economic Development Authority and ATB Financial. A founding director of the Consulting Engineers of Alberta and a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering, he will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree at 3 p.m. on June 7 at the North Campus convocation ceremony.

Palagummi Sainath is a writer and journalist who has been described by Nobel laureate Amartya Sen as "one of the world's great experts on famine and hunger." His stories and photographs have brought the world's attention to issues of poverty and injustice. Rural affairs editor of *The Hindu* since 2004, he has trained journalists in the poorest regions of India's countryside. A recipient of more than 35 national and international awards including the 2007 Ramon Magsaysay prize, he will receive an honorary doctor of letters degree at 3 p.m. on June 8.

Joe Schlesinger, a veteran foreign correspondent and one of Canada's finest television journalists, is a compassionate and articulate chronicler of the human condition. Respected for work that elevated pure journalism to an art form, he is the recipient of many awards including three Gemini Awards, 18 Gemini nominations and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Journalism Foundation. A member of the Order of Canada, he will receive an honorary doctor of letters degree at 10 a.m. on June 8.

Continued on page 3

Supplied

(L-R) Bunny Ferguson, Austin Mardon, Karen Luker, Ron Triffo, Greg Mortenson and Charlie Kakotok Evalik to receive honorary degrees in June.

16TH ANNUAL
SUPPLY MANAGEMENT SERVICES TRADESHOW
WEDNESDAY, MAY 4th 2011 | 9am–3pm
UNIVERSIADE PAVILION (Butterdome) University of Alberta | Edmonton, Alberta
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

folio

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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- ❑ Please keep my name, or
- ❑ Remove my name from the folio list.

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No response means the University of Alberta assumes an individual wishes to remain on the mailing list.

Helmholtz-Alberta partnership takes next step

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera signed an agreement in Germany April 8 that paves the way for future collaboration in the research fields of energy, the environment and possibly health care.

Samarasekera was in Berlin with German representatives of the Helmholtz Alberta Initiative—a collaborative research program developed to look at more sustainable technologies for Alberta's oilsands—to sign a research consortium agreement that formalizes the partnership. The Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres is an umbrella organization representing 16 research centres across Germany. The Germans researchers in this association are combining their long history of developing coal-mining technology with the U of A's oilsands expertise. The U of A has close to 50 oilsands research programs currently underway.

"With the legal framework of the agreement now in place, industry partners in the Canadian oilsands who have been watching our developing collaboration with interest will begin to add to this collaboration—heightening possibilities even further," said Samarasekera.

Jürgen Mlynek, president of the Helmholtz Association, says Alberta offers geological conditions that are very interesting for German researchers. "Our specialists will test new methods for the temporary storage of greenhouse gases and for generating power from geothermal energy," he said.

Since the HAI agreement first took form in 2009, there has been much sharing between U of A research teams and their German counterparts. Stefan Scherer, the U of A's HAI liaison, says 45 researchers from the university met with their counterparts at the Helmholtz Centre in Potsdam, Germany, in March.

> "With the legal framework of the agreement now in place, industry partners in the Canadian oilsands who have been watching our developing collaboration with interest will begin to add to this collaboration—heightening possibilities even further."
>
> Indira Samarasekera

"The particular focus of their joint research will include carbon-capture sequestering technology, deep geothermal energy, tailings-pond reclamation and improving water quality," said Scherer.

The U of A and Helmholtz are also looking closely at expanding their collaboration into medical research, Scherer says, and that the HAI partners are a good fit for future study of infectious diseases and virology. "The U of A's Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology has been up and running for almost a year now. That puts us at the forefront in that field of research in North America and the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research in Braunschweig holds the same status in Europe," he said.

In the wrap-up to her Berlin visit, Samarasekera looked beyond the breakthrough technologies she expects from the current teams of researchers working hard in Germany and at the U of A.

"Together, we will train future generations of engineers, scientists, business leaders, policy makers and technologists who will be needed to put these discoveries and innovations into practise," she said.

Undergraduate teaching award winners see 'bigger picture'

Jamie Hanlon

When it comes to selecting winners for the University of Alberta's annual Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, it's not easy choosing the best of the best, says Elisabeth Le, chair of the University Teaching Awards Committee.

"To figure in that very select group, it is not sufficient to just receive top evaluations from one's students year after year," said Le. "A lot more is required for a U of A teaching award."

Le notes that the winners repeatedly demonstrate a number of attributes that made them worthy of this year's awards.

Participating in teaching improvement initiatives and a willingness to take risks, becoming involved in curriculum development and helping students to develop into critically thinking, socially engaged citizens, are some of the key criteria in being chosen for the award.

The awards, whose recipients were announced last week, recognize excellence in undergraduate academic staff teaching in four categories: continuing academic staff, academic staff (lecturers and sessional instructors), early career(first five years) and a collaborative/ teaching unit awards (two or more instructors).

"These qualities demonstrate that awardees pay attention to the bigger picture and make sure that their students do so as well," said Le. "This year, this is particularly evident with the recipients of the teaching unit award."

The group who was the recipients of this year's teaching unit award winner consists of Lili Liu, chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy; the Department of Industrial Design's Robert Lederer and Greig Rasmussen; Cheryl Sadowski and Lisa Guirguis, from the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and the Department of Computing Science's Eleni Stroulia and Ioanis Nikolaidis.

"Thanks to this teaching unit, students specializing in very different disciplines have experienced how the respect of others and value of their work benefits all by resulting in a better quality service or product," said Le.

The remaining 2011 Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching award winners are:

Rutherford Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

- Kim Fordham, Augustana Campus
- Lise Gotell, Women's Studies Program, Faculty of Arts
- Suzanne Kresta, Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, Faculty of Engineering
- Mitchell McInnes, Faculty of Law
- Janet Scott Hoyt, Department of Music, Faculty of Arts
- Nesé Yuksel, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

William Hardy Alexander Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

- Anne Boerger, Campus Saint-Jean
- Lisa Prichard, Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science

Provost's Awards for Early Achievement of Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

- Dan Barreda, Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences and the Faculty of Science
- John Nychka, Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, Faculty of Engineering.

Violence part of the good ol' hockey game

Continued from page 1

Violence in hockey is, and always has been, part of the game, says Mason, who calls hockey a "collision sport," principally because of the speed at which the game is played. It's inevitable, therefore, says Mason, that "there are always going to be collisions and players whose tempers are going to flare and the possibility of violent behaviour on the ice."

Moreover, he says, fans of the game enjoy the sport for different reasons.

"Some people enjoy hockey because of the violence, and others appreciate the aesthetics—the skating, the skill and speed—but they are all bound up together, and that's critical for the NHL in terms of marketing and branding its product," says Mason, adding that research studies have shown that the more violent the game, the bigger the attendance.

Dan Mason

"The NHL knows that violence is its bread and butter, so it has to create an environment where there is going to be aggressive play," he says.

Furthermore, violence in sport is nothing new, says Mason; almost all of the popular team sports we know today evolved in the mid-to-late 19th century from the British school system where sports like rugby, which begat American football, and soccer were played. He says these sports, rough at best, became even more so as urbanization increased.

"Men who worked the land showed their manliness by how they worked in an agrarian environment, but with the move to the city, it was harder to prove one's manliness if you worked as a bank clerk, for example," he said. "Sport became a way through which men and boys could show that they were men."

Hockey was no different. Mason says news coverage of one of those early games describes players ramming each other's heads into the boards, and one player pinning another player's head down on the ice by placing his stick across his neck and kneeling on each end of the stick.

As interest grew in this most manly of sports, athletic associations, founded by Canada's moneyed elite, took root to control the game and keep the working classes out.

"The upper and middle classes in the larger urbanized areas took a leadership role in organizing the events, so hockey was the exclusive preserve of the amateur associations in Canada," said Mason.

"Then the sport became more popular, with more people—and more classes of people—playing, and issues arose about the control of the sport and perceptions about why people were playing it."

Today the NHL markets the greatest game on Earth as one of the fastest, most ferocious, most manly and aggressive games to an audience that hasn't changed much since the 19th century, though Mason says the game itself is "not even close to the same sport today."

He adds that, despite some of the spectacular hits and jaw-dropping fisticuffs, hockey is more popular than ever. "However, as an entertainment option there has been fragmentation of the market with many more things vying for our attention.

"Still, few things unite—or ignite—Canadians like hockey."

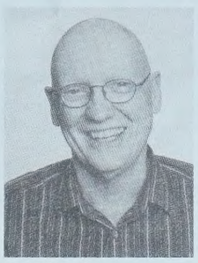
> "The NHL knows that violence is its bread and butter, so it has to create an environment where there is going to be aggressive play."
>
> Dan Mason

U of A faculty and alumni honoured at Mayor's Celebration

Isha Thompson

The Mayor's Celebration of the Arts is an evening for every background and any age—the only requirement is that you have a sincere appreciation of the arts. The 24th edition of the annual awards ceremony took place April 11 and both alumni and faculty from the Faculty of Arts received some of the top awards.

U of A drama professor emeritus Charles Thomas Peacocke took home the Atco Gas award for Outstanding Lifetime Achievement, one of the most anticipated recognitions of the evening. Peacocke, who also received the Order of Canada in 1995, is not only known for having an influence on the majority of the city's acting community, but also as a man with a big heart.



David Barnet

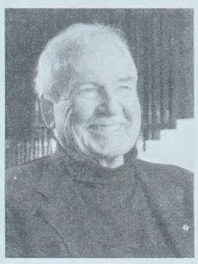
"I would like to be remembered as someone who cares," said Peacocke in a tribute video that played for the audience. He fondly reflected on his calling for the stage taking place in 1951 when he enrolled at the U of A and took his first drama course, which introduced him to Studio Theatre.

"It was a great enlightenment to me to see that one could spend a career doing this sort of thing, doing something you loved."

Current Faculty of Arts drama professor David Barnet said he was thrilled to see his former colleague take home the award. Barnet was also recognized for his role as artistic director of GeriActors and Friends, which won the Telus Courage to Innovate award.

GeriActors and Friends is an intergenerational theatre company that has recently created a lineup of programs, including a collaboration with Rapid Fire Theatre for a comedy improv workshop for seniors.

Barnet says he was surprised and excited to hear he was getting an award, and was thrilled to be a part of the event that puts a spotlight on the Edmonton arts community.



Thomas Peacocke

"It is very important that the arts is celebrated and acknowledged," says Barnet.

Faculty of Arts alumna and writer Myrna Kostash received the City of Edmonton Book Prize for her historical account in the *Prodigal Daughter: A Journey to Byzantium*. Accompanied by a cheque for $10,000, the prize has now become one of the most lucrative book prizes in the country.

Reaching out to Edmonton's youth and encouraging their participation in theatre is something Arlen Konopaki is especially passionate about. The 26-year-old is the associate artistic director of Rapid Fire Theatre, which specializes in improvised comedy, including a class specifically for teenagers.

"I think the great thing about improv is that it attracts a young audience, which is lacking in a lot of theatres across Canada," says Konopaki, who won the Northlands Award for an Emerging Artist, a recognition for an artist who demonstrates talent and accomplishment at the beginning of their professional career.

"It was a big honour. I knew I was in good company with the other nominees and past recipients so I was really pleased," says Konopaki on his reaction to the win. "It is nice that we get one night a year when the city at large focuses on [the arts]."

Faculty of Education partners with African university to strengthen ties to the community

Jamie Hanlon

The University of Alberta's Faculty of Education is partnering with Tanzania's Mzumbe University to help the African institution in the development of its strategic plans and to strengthen its relationship with the community—both private and public sectors.

This partnership is the result of a collaborative engagement between the African Union of Universities and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency.

Faustin Kamuzora and Magishi Mgasa, two of Mzumbe University's senior administrators, are spending two weeks at the U of A to learn about its strategic planning methods and how the university translates research innovation to private enterprise through TEC Edmonton.

"TEC Edmonton has quite a good program of commercialization and incubation," said George Richardson, assistant dean in the faculty's Office of International Initiatives. "We've got Faustin and Magishi spending a day-and-a-half with TEC Edmonton, looking at the projects they're working on and the strategies for engaging the private sector."

Aside from meetings with TEC Edmonton, the visitors to the U of A will meet with senior university administrators to gather information on the university's strategic planning process and discuss how to use the information to develop a plan that fits the Tanzanian context. Richardson says that some of the same policies and practices for developing and working with external stakeholders will be helpful to them in achieving their goals.

Mgasa says they are hoping to broaden their relationships with Tanzanian industry as a means to help graduates seeking employment, but also for research and funding. He notes that student involvement in these relationships will be beneficial to their employment opportunities and their civic engagement.

> "By developing a strong link with our stakeholders, the students will have a better understanding of the situation of [Tanzania]."
>
> Magishi Mgasa, visiting from Tanzania

"By developing a strong link with our stakeholders, the students will have a better understanding of the situation in the country," said Mgasa, "and when they go to work, they'll already have the exposure of working together with the different stakeholders."

Kamuzora noted that what they take back from the U of A will help them to develop strategies to strengthen their relationships with their partners and stakeholders, including the government. He adds that, by working with the U of A, Mzumbe University's mission of strengthening its service to the community is "well served."

The faculty's relationship with Mzumbe is not new, says Richardson. Two faculty members had worked at Mzumbe previously on math and science education projects. The U of A, and the faculty in particular, was Mzumbe's choice "because they knew us," he said.

As a follow up to this visit, the faculty will send one member to Tanzania for two weeks to work with the university's administrators in furthering the development of their strategic plans. This type of partnership is somewhat different from the type of work that Richardson's office usually does, but he notes that faculties across campus find themselves "engaged in different areas," especially in the context of global education and engagement.

"The university has an increasing presence in east Africa," said Richardson. "We're quite delighted to be part of this project."

Honorary degrees

Continued from page 1

Louise Hayes is an influential agent of change committed to a brighter future for Canada's Aboriginal peoples. She contributed to the creation of the first housing support programs in rural and remote communities, and assisted in the development of the Native Council of Canada. A community builder who has served on many volunteer boards including Big Brothers, Big Sisters, she currently chairs the Edmonton Public Schools Foundation. She will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree at 10 a.m. on June 9.

Greg Mortenson, co-author of #1 New York Times bestseller *Three Cups of Tea* and co-founder of the non-profit Central Asia Institute, is a champion for improved access to education. His work to establish more than 170 schools in rural regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan, serving more than 78,000 children, including 52,000 girls, has earned him the Sitara-e-Pakistan, the country's highest civilian honour. He will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree at 3 p.m. on June 9.

Austin Mardon is an inspiring advocate for the mentally ill. A scholar and Antarctic explorer diagnosed with schizophrenia in 1992, he has worked tirelessly to eliminate the stigma associated with psychiatric disorders. As a member of the Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities, his work has had a major impact on public policy and public perception. He is a member of the Order of Canada and a recipient of the CM Hincks Award, the highest award given by the Canadian Mental Health Association. He will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree at 10 a.m. on June 10.

Bunny Ferguson has transformed public conversations around family business and social innovation. Founding chair of the Alberta Business Family Institute, founding director of the Centre for Social Entrepreneurship and director of the Norlien Foundation, she is a tireless advocate for community-university engagement, health care excellence and educational leadership. A member of the Order of Canada, she will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree at 3 p.m. on June 13.

John Chin Sun Lau led one of the most impressive turnarounds in Canadian business history. Under his leadership, Husky Energy Inc. grew from a market value of $350 million in 1993 to $26 billion in 2008, earning him recognition on Harvard Business Review's list of the Top 50 Best-Performing CEO's in the world. Named an honorary chief by four First Nations communities, he is a champion of economic development, community wellness and education. He will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree at 10 a.m. on June 14.

Karen Luker is a nursing scholar whose pioneering research on cancer survivorship has led to the design of new services to support people affected by cancer. She also initiated groundbreaking work developing training programs for lay health workers in South Africa. Dean of the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work at the University of Manchester, she is recognized around the world as a pioneer in advancing academic nursing. She will receive an honorary doctor of science degree at 3 p.m. on June 14.

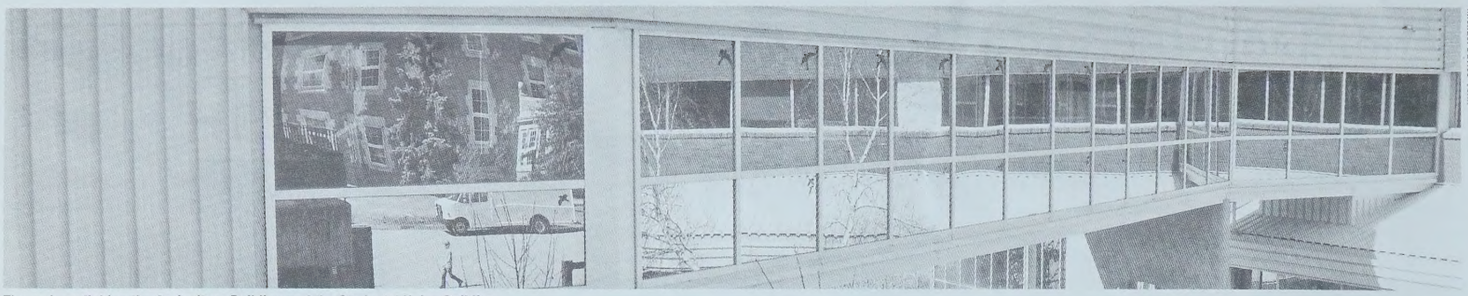
Charlie Kakotok Evalik champions a transformative vision for Canada's North. A central contributor to the settlement of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement and the creation of the new territory of Nunavut, he is President of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association and Chair and CEO of the Nunavut Resources Corporation. He is a strong advocate for leadership roles for Inuit as decision-makers in development that respects both the land and its people. He will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree at 10 a.m. on June 15.

Efim Zelmanov is one of only 48 individuals honoured with a Fields Medal, considered to be the Nobel Prize of mathematics. A professor of mathematics at the University of California, San Diego, he is considered one of the great algebraists of the 20th century. A member of the U. S. National Academy of Sciences and editor of several major mathematical journals, he is an inspiring researcher, teacher and mentor. He will receive an honorary doctor of science at 3 p.m. on June 15.

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Marion Pritchard, whose name was drawn as part of folio's April 8 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Pritchard correctly identified the photo in question as the Chemical and Materials Engineering Building. For her correct answer, Pritchard has won a University of Alberta-issued stainless-steel coffee mug, as well as a U of A-emblazoned bookmark.

Up for grabs this week is yet another U of A-issued stainless-steel coffee mug, as well as a U of A-emblazoned bookmark. To win, simply email what building the photo is of and email your answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, April 29, and you will be entered into the draw.



Michael Davies-Venn

The pedway linking the Agriculture Building and the Students' Union Building.

President's Society launched to better connect U of A donors

Michael Brown

On April 1, the Office of Advancement launched The President's Society, a new program for alumni and friends of the university who give $1,000 or more annually. The society aims to connect donors with the people and programs they support.

"The President's Society will be a recognition on the part of the university of the many people who have supported and contributed to the university," said Jim Edwards, inaugural honorary chair of the society. "It will encourage members of that group to be acquainted to each other and with specific things that their support of the university can bring about."

Edwards, a long-time Edmonton member of parliament and a U of A alumnus, has served as chair of the U of A Board of Governors, is a former member of the president's think-tank initiative and played the role of moderator of the university's Prime Ministers Conversation Series, which served as the centrepiece of the U of A's Centenary celebrations.

According to Edwards, whose family has been an ardent financial supporters of the U of A for decades, the impetus for the club came when Sandy and Cécile Mactaggart, in donating their Edmonton home and the surrounding lands to the university last year, surpassed $100 million in lifetime donations and matching funds.

"In donating his home, Sandy had some well-chosen words, essentially issuing a challenge to people who a have a positive regard for the university to do something," said Edwards. "He was laying down the gauntlet of his own example.

"What I want to do is to make a personal commitment to university donors is that, to the best of my ability, I will follow the Mactaggart's example and encourage others to do the same."

Edwards says his role will be to simply connect President's Society members with each other and the programs they support, as well as with the university's deans, provost Carl Amrhein and president Indira Samarasekera. Although many of the particulars of the society are still in their infancy, Edwards says he envisions the society as a vehicle where the university's many philanthropists come together, perhaps once a year, and exchange points of view and cite examples of why they are supporting the university, which may, in turn, strike a chord with their peers.

"Simply put, I am here to provide a little bit of leadership to people who have already made commitments to the university, but haven't thought of some of the more creative things they could be doing," said Edwards.

Currently, there are roughly 2,000 President's Society members who gave $1,000 or more last year, which amounted to more than $12 million. According to O'Neil Outar, the U of A's chief advancement officer, the impact of these gifts is enormous, as they support library acquisitions, student athletes, scholarships and bursaries, global education initiatives, undergraduate research and extra-curricular learning opportunities that shape the student experience at the university and drive breakthrough research discoveries.

Supplied

Jim Edwards

For those interested in learning more about the President's Society, please contact Edwards via the Office of Advancement at 780-492-7761.

Taking time for the university's town hall

the open door

Indira Samarasekera
President and Vice-Chancellor

April is a busy month on campus. Many of us are hurrying to finish or mark various assignments before the end of classes. Then, the stress level turns up another notch as students prepare for final exams and faculty and staff rush to meet various administrative deadlines associated with the wrap up of another term. So I was delighted that more than 300 students, staff and faculty were able to take time for the spring town hall on Tuesday afternoon. My thanks to all who were able to attend; for those who could not, videos and a podcast of the discussion are available on the U of A website and at *Colloquy*, the U of A's blog.

As always happens at our town halls, a wide range of topics was covered from the budget to the academic plan to health and wellness on campus. I believe it's worth noting that, in spite of the demands of this time of year, several students came to the town hall and wasted no time in showing me and the rest of the audience that they're engaged, not only in their own learning but also with the broader issues facing all institutions of higher learning.

What are we doing to encourage better undergraduate teaching at the U of A? How can the U of A make undergraduate research opportunities more available and financially viable? How can international students take greatest advantage of all that the U of A can offer? Can the university guarantee students a job after graduation? That last one elicited a few chuckles but we shouldn't laugh—campuses such as University of Regina have launched programs that do guarantee that students will either find career-related employment within six months or receive a tuition waiver for an additional year of undergraduate study.

The U of A may not guarantee students employment, but this question, along with the others, highlights the fact that students are very concerned about the future and the quality of their education. It's important that we take those concerns seriously and we do. I was able to highlight several of the recent initiatives to boost student engagement and experience that many of you have worked hard put in place: community service-learning, a one-stop student services portal, improved student web services, increased undergraduate research opportunities, internships, career fairs, and so much more. These efforts matter—to students and to the overall quality of the educational experience we offer at the U of A.

There is, as the students' questions underscore, more to do and our new academic plan reflects how we aim to get there. But, the very fact that our students are asking the kind of critical and timely questions that challenge us to do better suggests we must already be doing a few things right. Preparing students for future employment is important, but nurturing their critical thinking skills, giving them space to discover, voice and refine their ideas, and fostering active citizenship are the more vital and lasting aims of an excellent U of A undergraduate education.

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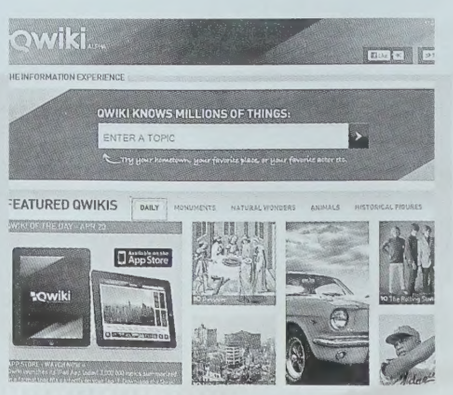
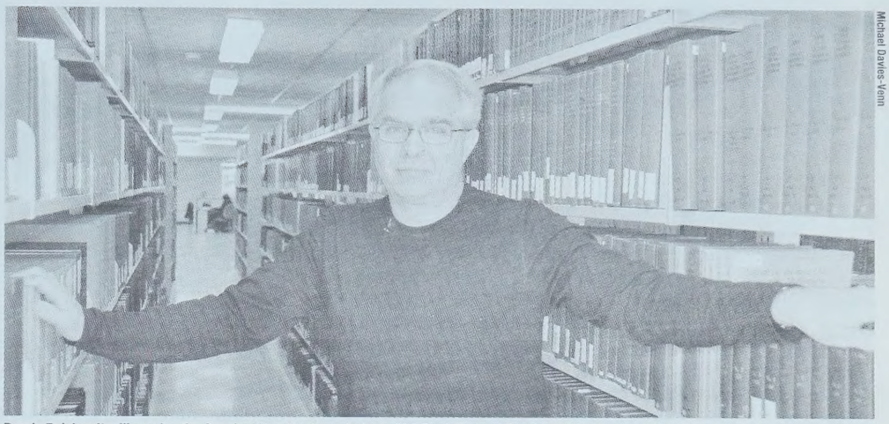


U of A librarian honoured with international award

Michael Davies-Venn



Michael Davies-Venn

Randy Reichardt will receive the Special Libraries Association's SLA Engineering Librarian of the Year award in June.

For close to three decades, Randy Reichardt has been helping faculty and students traverse millions of bits of data to get to a specific piece of information. The University of Alberta's Research Services librarian says he has come to enjoy the "eureka" moment when someone he is helping navigate a maze of books and journals finally makes the connection that would help them move along on their project. That has been the source of his energy for 28 years.

"Students come to me and, in many cases, they do not know where to start looking or they're lost," Reichardt said. "In the process of showing them how to do what they have to do, the light bulb goes on—'got it!'—that's the beginning and the end— and that's what matters.

"I've seen 10,000 of those light bulbs and it's so rewarding when you see the students react. And when they come back and say, 'thank you so much;' that helps."

In June, recognition for Reichardt's work while exclusively working with the chemical, material, mechanical and engineering management departments will come from colleagues worldwide. On their recommendations, the U.S.-based Special Libraries Association will honour Reichardt with its SLA Engineering Librarian of the Year Award. When he arrives in Philadelphia this summer to receive the award, he says he will be the first Canadian to have won the award.

One of the letters recommending him for the honour reads, "As a librarian in academia, [Reichardt] has the ability and opportunity to provide training and direction to the next generation of engineering." But Reichardt has done more than that, he says. He also advocates for the departments he works with on a number of issues, ranging improving access to databases owned by publishing houses for students to negotiating with vendors for the university to get the best price point. But he says the accomplishment he's most proud so far has been obtaining access to ISO standards.

An engineering student, for example, wanting to develop a piece of equipment, would need to work with those standards to ensure, among other things, that their product will be compatible with others in that particular industry. Reichardt says the university used to buy the standards individually and access was limited to printed copies, but he has helped change that.

"We now have on this campus access to more than 58,000 standards online because I've worked hard to build up the online access, making it easier for students and professors—not just in engineering but also in clothing and textiles and biology—to have access to standards that are most critical to them," he said. "For example, a lot of research is done about fire at this university, so researchers who are working on clothing and textiles also love having access these standards."

He says he is devoted to the students, faculty and staff he works with. "They have my undying love. They are all fantastic and they treat me like a colleague."

Reichardt recounted a story with a student who needed a book that was not available at the library. Reichardt asked the student to get it through interlibrary loan because at the time, the university libraries did not have a copy of the book. But he promised to acquire a permanent copy for the libraries when possible. The student wrote back saying, "I'm so glad to hear from you, you're simply amazing, thank you very much.'

"All I did was order a book for him. But that's the golden moment."

Change made easy by staffer who keeps university on the move

Lyne Boucher measures out a space in advance of a move. (Photo: Michael Brown)

Michael Brown

staff spotlight

As almost anyone can attest, the very act of moving—the packing, the cleaning, the lifting and the unpacking, as well as the overall destruction and chaos—can erase all the original excitement and perceived benefits of the experience, and leave all involved wondering if it was worth it.

That is, unless your move is carried out by Lyne Boucher, move administrator within Facilities and Operations' Design and Technological Services, who co-ordinates moves of people, equipment and/or furniture.

"The main criteria about this job is a desire to please your customers," said Boucher. "These people have full-time jobs; they don't have time to worry about all these little details.

"I am here to make the moving experience as painless as possible."

And the details are many. Not only does Boucher measure out and design the space and facilitate the actual move, but also co-ordinates resources to take care of cleanup, signage, any power and phone needs, and even makes sure the mail finds its way.

"I look after details you wouldn't even think of," she said. "I also try to minimize the disruption. Quite often people will pack up their things on a Friday, I will do moves over the weekend, and they come to work Monday and their new space is ready to go."

At the outset of a move, Boucher says people are anxious, but the rewards are many.

"I get a lot of thank-you cards and gifts," said Boucher. "I'm also lucky to have a great team and so many resources that I can tap into that you just wouldn't find anywhere else.

"In most places you don't have a carpenter on staff; you don't have an HVAC person available, but I can phone control and I can phone security. I set off alarms all the time—they know me by first name—but I can get it fixed right away. In a corporate environment, you are at the mercy of outside consultants and outside resources, so my position at the university is very helpful."

Boucher's says there isn't much to prepare a person for a position like hers, which she says she has perfected at "the school of hard knocks," over her nearly three years at the U of A.

"My first job was to move 70 people out of Chemical and Materials Engineering and into the Electrical and Computer Engineering and Research Facility and the Natural Resources Engineering Facility," said Boucher. "I was dealing with labs with state-of-the-art research and equipment that is worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. It was a lot of stress, but it worked out great."

Working at the university also has advantages for Boucher that go beyond the satisfaction she gets from her job.

"Both my daughters go here, so I get to have lunch and see them from time to time, which is nice," she said. "The U of A is such a great environment. I get to ride my bike to work and I take a walk every day, and just like that, you're in the river valley. It's phenomenal."

U of A's dentistry school opens wide to special-needs oral care

Quinn Phillips

The University of Alberta dentistry school is doing everything it can to ensure its students are well versed in special-needs dentistry care.

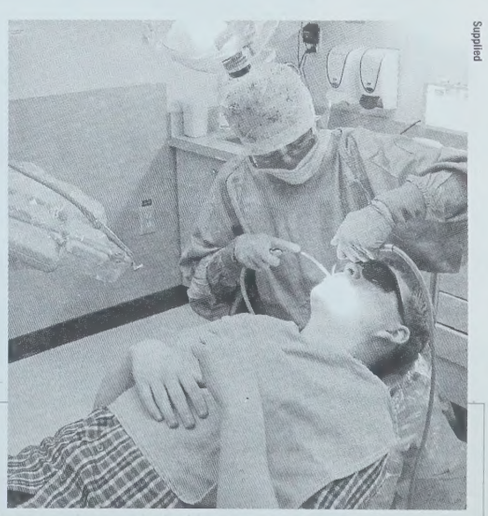
Bill Preshing, professor in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, leads a post-graduate residency program, which sees four dental residents work in the U of A Hospital's dental clinic. They see patients with a variety of health issues, including hospital in-patients, as well as people with Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities.

"These residents recognized they had received little exposure, through a standard undergraduate dental program, to this broad range of patients who need help," said Preshing. "These students want a broader range of experience managing people with these conditions."

This residency program is one-of-a-kind in Canada because it is two-sided. Residents get a chance to work in the U of A Hospital's dental clinic with the special-needs patients but also work in the department's clinic to expand their dental skills.

"The dentistry program [at the hospital] tends to be pretty basic, so the students aren't really expanding their skills to a great degree," said Preshing. "With this set up, the residents can get the best of both worlds—expanding their dental skills while they're also getting experience with a broad range of special-care patients."

Preshing says the year-long residency program teaches residents valuable techniques for treating special-needs patients, including the use of sedation to relieve any apprehension or fear. Beyond the skill acquisition, however, Preshing says that just being able to treat these patients in community settings is vital, as these patients are vastly under served."We have patients coming in from Saskatchewan, northern Alberta, the Northwest Territories and northern British Columbia," said Preshing. "We've expanded so much over the last 15 to 20 years; I think, more and more, U of A dentistry is becoming known as the place to go."



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A post-grad residency program in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry allows dental residents to see patients with a variety of health issues, including hospital in-patients, as well as people with Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities.

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(Left) U of A printmaker Liz Ingram inspects the installation of her latest piece in Calgary (above) that explores her fascination with water.

Leaving a life-sized water mark on Alberta

Michael Davies-Venn

Liz Ingram has a curious fascination with water. Her interest in our relationship with the element, its healing values and importance to our being, influences much of her artwork. Perhaps in keeping with that inquisitiveness, her latest work, *Confluence Through the Looking Glass*, sees water at its core.

"At our youthful age, we understand more our connection with water—that we're made of water, but as we grow and mature, we lose that connection," said Ingram. "I'm trying to bring that experience back, using imagery of our interconnectedness with water."

The University of Alberta printmaking professor says the 30-feet-wide by 17-feet-high piece, unveiled April 15 at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium in Calgary, is the largest piece she has ever created and represents an historical cornerstone in her career.

For *Confluence Through the Looking Glass* Ingram photographed bodies in water in all forms imaginable. She also took a team of dancers and two canoes to a lake. With the boats anchored, the dancers began leaping into the air, splashing the surface of the water while Ingram, perched atop a ladder planted in the shallow waters of the lake, directed and photographed the dancers.

"I've been shooting figures in water for years, in bathtubs and underwater, for example. But this was like choreographing; it was an unusual situation," Ingram said. "The dancers are not professional and I chose ordinary people because I did not want it to be a performance in the ordinary sense of the word. I want people to connect and relate with these figures in water."

> "I really believe that water is something we need to protect, respect and love, and I don't think we do so. When we protect water, we protect ourselves. Water is the source of our being."
>
> Liz Ingram

The result is a towering, layered artwork of water, air and sky covering an entire wall space. The foreground depicts the dancers suspended in air, with water droplets dotting their floating bodies, against a background of turbulent waters at the top, and quieting towards the bottom. Although the size of the piece dwarfs the viewer, Ingram says the work should empower.

"I want the experience of being in front of the images to be uplifting and about the human spirit, to celebrate the human spirit," she said. "But at the same time, bring to the forefront the context of nature—the elements, beauty, power and wonder—of what we're part of, which is water and air."

Ingram won a province-wide competition by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts and Alberta Jubilee Auditoria Society to create the work. This is her second permanent piece prominently displayed in an Alberta landmark. *Touching Water: Anticipation and Memory*, was the first and is on permanent display at the Edmonton International Airport. Water is also the main theme of that piece.

"I really believe that water is something we need to protect, respect and love, and I don't think we do so," she says. "When we protect water, we protect ourselves. Water is the source of our being."

She says most people may recall the joy water brings them, from playing in puddles in spring, at the lake or in a bath. "[*Confluence Through the Looking Glass*] is a people piece, and in some ways, it is more of a public piece than much of my usual works," said Ingram. "Without watering down the content, I have tried to create a piece that's accessible to a broad audience."

Many will see the piece in coming years, and Ingram says it is suitably placed to allow patrons to the auditorium an opportunity to reflect water and walk away inspired. "I hope that people take away a feeling of connection to water and our environment, and that the exhibit provides an uplifting experience," she said. "There's incredible power in the human spirit. Sometimes we forget about that, and water helps bring that power out."

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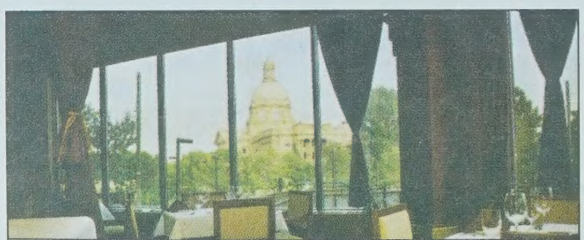

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Four engineering professors win prestigious APEGGA awards

Richard Cairney

Four Faculty of Engineering professors have won prestigious awards from the Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta for research, teaching, leadership and early achievements.

John Nychka, Murray Gray, Tian Tang and Wilsun Xu were all recognized at the annual APEGGA Summit Awards gala in Calgary April 14.

Nychka, a materials engineering professor, was awarded the Excellence in Education Award. "This is a great honour, and I am thrilled to be recognized for doing something I love," said Nychka. "I am very thankful to APEGGA, my nominators, colleagues, students and the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta."

Nychka developed and organized the U of A's first engineering workshop on teaching assessment and serves as a teaching mentor—recently taking on this role university-wide. He is co-chair of the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering's teaching enhancement committee.

A professor in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, Gray was awarded the Centennial Leadership Award, which is presented to a member of APEGGA who has attained the highest distinction relating to the science of engineering as an executive or director of an outstanding project or ongoing enterprise.

Gray has long recognized that sustainable development of the oilsands requires technological breakthroughs to create economically viable and environmentally conscious methods for the mining, extraction and upgrading of Canada's oilsands. He played a key role in establishing the interdisciplinary, multi-university Centre for Oil Sands Innovation

Tang, a professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, was recognized with the Early Accomplishment Award.

Tang leads a team of six graduate students researching mechanical and interfacial behaviours at nanoscale level and in biological systems. Her findings are being used in important engineering applications, such as the development of new methods to process carbon nanotubes and the design of synthetic polymers as gene delivery carriers to treat cancer.

Supplied

(L-R) Tian Tang, Wilson Xu, Murray Gray and John Nychka won APEGGA Summit Awards April 14 in Calgary.

Xu, a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, received APEGGA's Research Excellence Award for his eight years of research and development on anti-islanding protection methods for distributed generation (DG) generators to protect electrical workers.

In DG systems, power is produced in many smaller energy sources and pooled on a main grid. When an outage occurs at a substation, "islanding" may occur around DG generators that are still producing electricity. This can be hazardous to workers trying to repair the grid.

Xu and his research team are now looking to change how consumers monitor their home's electricity usage. They have determined that individual appliances give off distinct usage signatures in a house's wiring. Analyzing these changes in patterns can determine which appliances are running and how much power each uses.

Lowering the Sonic boom on the competition

Jamie Hanlon

To say that Mike Holmes and Maya Cieszynska don't believe in sticking to the script is not an exaggeration.

Just hours before they were to present their ideas at the 2011 Canada's Next Top Ad Executive competition in Toronto, they made changes to their presentation. Obviously, the gamble paid off. Holmes and Cieszynska, students in the Alberta School of Business at the U of A, beat out nine other teams of business students across Canada at the final in Toronto March 29, marking the first time students from the University of Alberta have come away with the title.

"I think we walked in a little scared, a little uncertain," said Holmes. "We were stunned at the reaction we got, actually. We got some very positive feedback."

As part of the competition, participants had to develop a multi-dimensional marketing campaign that would build awareness and help launch a new compact automobile, the Chevrolet Sonic.

The win means that both students walk away from the competition with brand new Sonics, once the vehicle rolls off the production line later this year, as well as a wealth of opportunities. Cieszynska, who graduates this year, has already been interviewing in Toronto; Holmes has another year to graduate but is sure that the win will still be a valuable addition to his resume.

"Just being able to say that you came in first in this competition holds tremendous weight with people in the industry," said Holmes. "I couldn't ask for anything more."

While this is not the first time that the two have teamed up together, with Cieszynska graduating, it will most likely be the last. With a year of university still to go, Holmes jokingly wonders whether he should quit while he is ahead. "There is a part of me that is tempted to throw in another submission for next year."

Supplied

Mike Holmes and Maya Cieszynska became the first students from the U of A to win Canada's Next Top Ad Executive competition.

Researcher finds the psychological effects of identity theft linger long after the initial financial blow

Judy Monchuk

In January 2010, Joanne McNeal received a series of persistent messages about her email account—seemingly from the account provider itself— seeking "verification" of her name, address and password. Late one night, when yet another warning notice arrived, she let her guard down and surrendered the data.

"I certainly learned how fast your information can be just blown wide open," says McNeal, who teaches in the U of A's Faculty of Education. Soon, financial appeals ostensibly from her were made via email to family and professional colleagues around the world.

One of the fastest growing crimes in the world, law enforcement officials say identity theft is thought to be as profitable as drug related offences, estimated at between $10 and $30 billion annually in Canada. But the violation of privacy goes deeper than just finances.

McNeal found that even her Facebook account was compromised, and, in a chilling twist, several of her friends reported carrying on Facebook conversations with the imposter. "You just feel violated, like you've been opened up, drawn and quartered."

These feelings aren't unusual, says Jessica Van Vliet, an assistant professor in counselling psychology at the U of A and one of the few academics to have studied the psychological impact of identity theft. Van Vliet recently conducted an exploratory study on the experiences of individuals who were victims of identity theft. Participants who recounted their experience during in-depth research interviews expressed a pervasive sense of vulnerability each time they used a credit card or a bank machine. Some participants also felt like they were being treated as criminals when they attempted to clear their names.

"It was very clear that most participants in the study no longer felt safe conducting everyday financial transactions that most of us take for granted," says Van Vliet. Most of the identity theft victims felt they were taking appropriate precautions to safeguard their personal information and had no idea how that data fell into the wrong hands.

> "It was very clear that most participants in the study no longer felt safe conducting everyday financial transactions that most of us take for granted."
>
> Jessica Van Vliet

The lack of specifics makes it difficult for identity theft victims to attain any closure and move forward. "No matter how well they monitor their financial records for the rest of their lives, they may still feel vulnerable," Van Vliet says.

Very few of the people in Van Vliet's study had sought any counselling. But that doesn't mean the experience isn't traumatic, only that the possible lingering effects of identity theft are poorly understood.

"Without acknowledging the psychological distress often associated with identity theft, people may minimize their own suffering," says Van Vliet. Another consideration is that society often doesn't believe that victims are blameless, feeling often that they must have done something wrong to bring this upon themselves. "It's terrifying to think you can do everything right and still be a victim," she adds.

Since falling prey to identity theft, McNeal's awareness is piqued, ready to protect her from schemes in the future. "Certainly, you learn that you need to be vigilant and to not discuss personal information or passwords." She now shares her identity theft experience with her class of future teachers in the hope that the classroom discussion it prompts will serve as a wake-up call for the students, too.

"Most of us are too trusting," she says. "When something like this happens, you have to learn from the experience."

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Study shows care giving harming employment, careers

Michel Proulx

Caring for an aging parent or a family member with a disability or chronic ailment is becoming a regular part of life for an increasing number of Canadians and it's affecting caregivers' own health, employment and finances, research reveals.

About 2.3 of the 3.8 million Canadians aged 45 and over who provide unpaid care to a family member or friend are employed, said Janet Fast, professor in the University of Alberta's Department of Human Ecology, who co-led the research team, along with Donna Lero of the University of Guelph.

"While care giving is a positive experience for many, people often have to miss work or reduce work hours and forego job opportunities to provide care," she said. "This has economic costs for caregivers, their families and employers."

> "While care giving is a positive experience for many, people often have to miss work or reduce work hours and forego job opportunities to provide care."
>
> Janet Fast

Employers bear the costs of care giving through staff absenteeism, lost productivity and recruitment and training of new personnel, said the researchers.

"It represents an enormous loss of productivity to employers and to the economy in general—the equivalent of 157,000 full-time employees annually," said Fast, who added that Canadians and policy-makers need to better understand this phenomenon and its impact on paid employment.

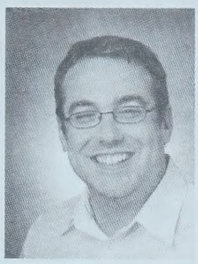
The researchers analyzed Statistics Canada's 2007 General Social Survey—the most recent data available—to compile a snapshot of employment consequences of unpaid care giving across the country. The data showed that, of the 2.3 million employed Canadians aged 45 and older, 37 per cent of women and 28 per cent of men are unpaid caregivers, and 40 per cent care for two or more people. Employed caregivers spent on average the equivalent of one full workday per week providing direct care and support. Caregiving has a greater affect on women's employment, earnings and long-term economic security more for women than for men.

Fast says work-family conflict continues to be a serious problem in Canada and that the study findings have important implications for public policy and business practice.

In rehabbing a bad heart, 'exercise is a wonder drug that hasn't been bottled'

Sandra Pysklywyc

A new study by researchers at the University of Alberta shows that, for best results in stable patients after a heart attack, early and prolonged exercise is the key to the best outcomes.



Alex Clark

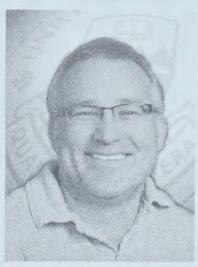
Study co-authors Mark Haykowsky, a researcher in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, and Alex Clark, researcher in the Faculty of Nursing, along with fellow U of A researchers Don Schopflocher in the School of Public Health and Ian Paterson in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, as well as colleagues from Duke, Stanford and the University of British Columbia, reviewed more than 20 years of trials. The team found that stable patients who have suffered heart attacks see more heart-performance benefits when starting an exercise program one week after the heart attack, rather than waiting a month or longer to begin rehabilitation.

"While it's been shown that exercise has a favourable effect on heart function, it's also important to dispel the idea that what the heart needs is rest," said Haykowsky.

The study shows that, in fact, the heart will strengthen with exercise sooner and with continued exercise over a longer period of time.

"In the past, patients in Canada and the United States have been told to wait for one month before beginning their exercise treatment and this treatment typically only goes on for about three months," said Clark.

But patients who begin an exercise program one week after their heart attack were found to have the best heart performance. For those who waited to begin their exercise rehabilitation program, the results showed that, "for every week that a patient delayed his or her exercise treatment, he or she would have to train for the equivalent of one month longer to get similar benefits," said Clark. "Our findings suggest that at least six months of exercise is the most beneficial."



Mark Haykowsky

Exercise in this study is defined as aerobic exercise in a group setting to build up exercise capacity.

The researchers reviewed both benefits and harms of exercise. The authors say there was no evidence in the study to suggest that beginning an exercise program earlier that the typical waiting period had any detrimental effects.

"In the 1970's, health-care professionals were telling patients not to move for three months after a heart attack. Our findings suggest that stable patients need not wait a month to start exercising in a cardiac-rehabilitation setting," said Clark.

Given that, in Canada, only one-third of patients are referred to rehabilitation after a heart attack and then only 20 per cent then attend, Haykowsky says the key to the best outcome is for patients to not only be referred to rehabilitation, but also to be referred early, participate and stick with the program.

"Exercise is a wonder drug that hasn't been bottled," he said.

The study was recently published in the online journal *Trials*.

> "While it's been shown that exercise has a favourable effect on heart function, it's also important to dispel the idea that what the heart needs is rest."
>
> Mark Haykowski

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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Medicine and dentistry honours teaching and research

Teaching, research and professorial collegiality were celebrated during the latest installment of the Inaugural Professorial Lectures held April 11 in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry.

Faculty members, learners and staff heard professors Adrian Wagg and Michael Hendzel talk about their current research and how it relates to health and well-being.

Excellence in teaching was also celebrated as Scott North, winner of a 3M National Teaching Fellowship, was recognized by his colleagues and former students. A professor in the Department of Oncology, North creates simulated clinical situations in which actors represent patients—thus giving students the opportunity to conduct physical examinations and to rehearse dealing with the difficult decisions associated with an oncology practice. He also invites alternative medicine practitioners and terminal cancer patients and their families to talk to the students about the healing and grieving process.

"Dr. North is an exceptionally good teacher," said Fraser Brenneis, vice-dean of education. "He has made a significant difference to our undergraduate programs and our students are better informed, more compassionate and safer practitioners because of his efforts.

"We are very proud to acknowledge Dr. North as the fourth member of this faculty to win a 3M award," said Brenneis.

Nanotech sector getting support from new program

A new program to support Alberta's growing microsystems and nanotechnology industry has been launched, with up to $6.4 million in funding for private industry and universities.

Called nanoBridge, the program will help develop prototyping and capacity development in this high-tech sector, enabling Alberta universities and companies to advance microsystems and nanotechnology commercial opportunities.

"nanoBridge is all about early-stage commercialization—getting new microsystem and nanotechnology ideas out of the lab and started down the path towards the marketplace," said nanoBridge chair and Faculty of Engineering associate dean (research and planning) Steven Dew.

"We help fund the development of prototype devices that secure intellectual property, attract initial investors and demonstrate capabilities to regulators and prospective customers. There is a fundamental commercialization gap that nanoBridge is helping get nano inventions across."

Dew said nanoBridge is "a pan-Alberta initiative open to nanotechnology projects from across the province serving both public institutions and small or medium-sized companies."

Big Brothers Big Sisters mentorship program flourishes

More than 150 elementary and junior high-school students in Edmonton have had medical and dental students as their mentors, thanks to a great idea by a medical student three years ago.

Peter MacPherson, a volunteer at Big Brothers Big Sisters who was in his first year of medicine at the University of Alberta, approached BBBS about starting a mentorship program that would match elementary kids and medical students. Shortly after that discussion, a group of medical students approached the charity to inquire about starting a junior-high mentorship program as well. Today, both programs are so popular that kids in younger grades can't wait to join the programs when school starts in the fall.

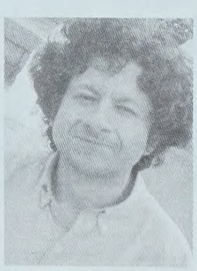
"We wanted to address the tremendous need for mentors in Edmonton," said MacPherson. "An impressive number of medical students got behind this idea and volunteered as big brothers and big sisters.

"This partnership fosters an interest in post-secondary education from a very young age and encourages kids to explore their dreams and passions."

"We have a lot of great stories about what a difference this program has made," says Chelsie McFarlane, the BBBS caseworker in charge of one of the mentorship programs. "We have one elementary student who said the advice his medical-student mentor has given him has made him stronger and more confident when interacting with his peers in various situations. That is wonderful to see."

Professor given Korean university's highest honour

U of A professor Abel Cadenillas has been appointed "World Class University Distinguished Professor of Financial Engineering" by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology of South Korea.



Abel Cadenillas

The South Korean government created the World Class University program to transform their universities into world-class universities. As part of their grant applications, Korean universities must nominate outstanding world-class researchers who would do research and give lectures on their campuses.

Cadenillas is a professor in the Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences. An acclaimed researcher who has done outstanding research on optimal risk-sharing, optimal consumption-investment and optimal portfolio management, Cadenillas' work looks at when there are taxes and transaction costs, the optimal control of the exchange rate, optimal manager compensation, optimal risk and dividend policies, optimal control of inventories, optimal stochastic control and business cycles.

'There's a Heifer in Your Tank' hits the road

Ken Mathewson

Anyone who ever suggested that agriculture students are lacking creativity or a sense of humour obviously never attended a performance of "There's a Heifer in Your Tank."

The production, which is currently in its seventh year, features students of the Animal Science 200 class performing uproarious videos on a variety of agricultural topics, tied together with live performances by teaching assistants and learning coaches.

There's no question that this is not the traditional type of classroom environment. The presentation last month in the Fort Saskatchewan Shell Theatre saw students dressed in costumes ranging from Bill Nye the Science Guy and Justin Bieber to walking, talking masses of cow manure and everything in between.

Frank Robinson, dean of students and professor of poultry science, started There's a Heifer in Your Tank in 2004 as a way to get students engaged and excited about agriculture. He decided to make the class research based: students would find the answers to intriguing questions about animals and food production and present them in less orthodox format than a paper or class presentation.

"Originally, it was more of a conference-style presentation," said project co-ordinator Dana Penrice. "But asking open-ended kinds of questions inspires a lot of creativity. After a few hilarious jokes, it just evolved into skits and now it's really caught on. Around 60 per cent of the classes aren't even studying agriculture," said Penrice. "They take it for the experience as opposed to the science."

Although no one insists the presentations be comical, it appears to be an unspoken rule. Students used a wide range of creative approaches, including movie spoofs, phony news broadcasts, wild apparel and mock schoolyard fights to pass on the answers to obscure agricultural questions.

Beyond encouraging students to research the topics, the project helps them to socialize and get to know one another, say organizers."It's a fun community, which is what professors Frank [Robinson] and Martin [Zuidhof] wanted to get going right off the bat," said second-year animal health student Chase McGowan.

"People who I didn't really know but recognized—I was able to start a conversation with them based on things we were doing in the class, like what kind of a dance we were planning on doing."

"Everybody opens up really quickly," agreed Danielle Tolley, a first-year pre-vet student who starred in the opening skit. "If you're shy, you're not going to be shy for long in that class."

Students were remarkably comfortable speaking to a packed 550-seat theatre—which included MLA and former minister of agriculture Doug Horner—a phenomenon Penrice attributes to the comedic nature of the performances.

"It is pretty scary for some students, when you tell them in the first class that they're going to be putting on this show," she said. "But the important thing is just to let them know that it's not all that serious and to make sure they're having fun."

Supplied

Students from the March 29 Heifer in Your Tank production discuss the similarities between cow udders and lungs.

University leader in disability services dies

Folio Staff

The University of Alberta community is mourning the passing of a loyal staffer, a beloved friend and colleague. Recently retired Marion Vosáhlo, founding and only director of Specialized Support & Disability Services at the U of A for more than 30 years, died March 24 after complications related to a long battle with lupus. She was 63.

Marian Vosáhlo

Vosáhlo was a leader among leaders, says colleagues, a much respected activist and advocate for persons with disabilities, an inspiration to all who had the good fortune to work with her. She led with passion and humour and a genuine interest in the lives of her staff and the students she served.

In an interview with *Folio* in 2009, Vosáhlo said about her work in creating Specialized Support & Disability Services: "It all started with the students. They would come to us and say, 'this is what I'm doing; this is where I'm going; this is what my needs are.'"

Under her guidance, Specialized Support and Disability Services has grown from one employee helping a handful of students to a team of 16, plus an army of casual volunteers giving support to more than 650 students.

"All of these things have grown out of certain needs and requirements and our aim has always been to go as far as we can with something," she said.

"Marion considered the students that she interacted with, and her SSDS staff members, as family," says Dean of Students Frank Robinson. "Her aspirations for each helped Marion craft success plans that served this campus very well for many years and into the future.

"The role that Marion played in helping thousands of students is immense and is highly appreciated."

Donations in Vosáhlo can be made to the University of Alberta's Marion Vosáhlo Memorial Bursary.

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Arts dean lauds her faculty's success at securing national funding awards

Michael Davies-Venn

For the second year in a row, researchers in the Faculty of Arts topped the national average for the number of Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council grants awarded to a university.

Faculty of Arts researchers received 20 awards worth $1.2 million out of 45 proposals for a success rate of 44 per cent, says arts dean Lesley Cormack. The national success rate is 37 per cent.

Cormack announced the results during her annual state-of-the-faculty address April 7. The success with SSHRC standard research grants was just part of the story as Cormack said arts researchers recorded numerous unbridled successes across several national granting agency competitions.

"We should feel very good about these. This is one way of measuring research, but, in fact, is not the most important," said Cormack. "The most important is the research that we do and how much difference it makes to our disciplines, students' lives and the people around us."

Cormack took the opportunity to outline her vision for the faculty, a plan that she says will help the faculty meet some of the challenges ahead. These challenges include a shrinking university-aged demographic, and university student immigrants who are generally interested in science, engineering, technology and medicine.

"We have a challenge," she said. "We have to find a way that is clear to these students that what we're offering them is a degree they want to get and can use when they graduate."

Cormack says the faculty should respond to these challenges by getting students to understand the relevance of an arts education and develop a plan for the faculty that aligns with the university's academic plan. She says the faculty's plan will focus on students and research.

"We will educate the next generation of citizens and scholars, both undergraduates and graduates, to be engaged. We need to link together teaching and research in an integrated, authentic and deep manner, and honour the complex and confrontational work that we do while insisting on its relevance," she said. "We want students to know this is the place to come if you want to get what it takes to be an engaged citizen."

Andy Knight, chair of the Department of Political Science, says the faculty's plan should put the faculty in a position of leadership. He says Cormack is on a path that could place the faculty among the leaders of liberal-arts education in Canada.

"One of the things the Faculty of Arts needs now is stability," said Knight. "Lesley brings that to the faculty, and because she will be around for a while, she will be able to lead the charge. And, because she's so enthusiastic about the potential of the faculty, she will be able to inspire us to reach the best possible level that we can reach," said Knight.

"[Her enthusiasm] is going to be very valuable in the future, because we have the potential to be the best Faculty of Arts in the country."

Michael Davies-Venn

Dean of arts Leslie Cormack speaks at the state-of-the-faculty address April 7.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on Express News at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until June 24

The Last Best West: Glimpses of the Prairie Provinces from the Golden Age of Postcards. This exhibition of postcards is from the settlement and urbanization of the Canadian Northwest. The Peel's Prairie Provinces postcard collection contains thousands of fascinating and informative images, including personalized views of first houses, farms and family groups, as well as important events, disasters and buildings. Admission is free. Exhibition catalogues are available for $25. Noon–4:30 p.m. Lower level, South Rutherford Library.

Until April 28

Corpus II: An exhibition of art exploring the human body. This exhibit by 2010/2011 Life Drawing Session participants presents a diverse range of drawings, paintings, mixed media pieces and more. South Foyer Rutherford Library.

April 23

Easter Egg Hunt. The U of A Alumni Association invites young candy lovers (12 & under) to come to campus and join the hunt for tasty Easter eggs! With face-painting, hot chocolate and goodies, it promises to be an egg-cellent time for the whole family. Egg hunt begins at 1:15 p.m. in Business Quad (between Arts, HUB and Business) RSVP online at www.alumni.ualberta.ca or call 780-492-6530.

April 27

Literary Cocktails. Please join the staff of the University of Alberta Press for readings and refreshments with three celebrated poets. E.D. Blodgett, Susan McCaslin, and Kath MacLean are joined by MC and past press director Glenn Rollans for this year's Literary Cocktails. We are a proud part of the 2010 Edmonton Poetry Festival. The event is free and all are welcome. 4–6 p.m. Papachase Room Faculty Club.

April 28

Educational Policy Studies – Research Day. A celebration of the diverse research interests of students, sessional instructors and faculty members from the program areas of: Adult Education, Indigenous Peoples Education, Educational Administration and Leadership, Theoretical, Cultural and International Studies in Education. Everyone is welcome to attend this big event in Ed Policy Studies. Please RSVP by calling 780-492-2556. Noon–6 p.m.

Educated Palate – The Localvore's Dilemma. Take a walk with the Alumni Association through a grocery store with Sunfresh Farms and spot the locally grown produce and discover that you can still support the independent farmers at your regular grocery store. 7–9 p.m. $15 per person (includes field trip from Sunfresh to/from grocery store). Go to www.ualberta.ca/alumni/educatedpalate to register.

April 29

Developing Community-Based Research Projects: The 'How.' An introduction to key ideas and resources available for conducting research with a CBR perspective. Participants will have opportunities to learn how research questions affect research designs, examine the iterative nature of CBR, work with real-life case-study information and network with potential CBR partners. 8:30 a.m.–3 p.m. Enterprise Square. Register at www.cup.ualberta.ca/index.php.

May 2 & 3

Third Annual English and Film Studies Graduate Students' Symposium. This event discusses literature and film in academic and public life and combines traditional and non-traditional panels. Highlights include an address entitled "Fast Feminism, Slow Academe," by English professor Heather Zwicker, and a reading by creative writer Tim Bowling. Arlette Zinck, dean of arts at King's University College, will give the keynote address, drawing upon her engagement with human rights in the case of Omar Khadr. 9 a.m.–7 p.m. 236/238 TELUS Centre.

May 2

Award Deadlines: University Cup and Distinguished University Professor. The Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) invites nominations for the University Cup and Distinguished University Professor. Nominations should be submitted to the Academic Awards and Ceremonies Office, B19 Admin by 4 p.m. www.conman.ualberta.ca/stellent/groups/public/@academic/documents/procedure/pp_cmp_059023.hcsp

May 3

Academic Women's Association Spring Banquet and Annual General Meeting. Both the AWA Woman of the Year Award and the Graduate Student Award will be presented at this event. In addition, we will be collecting book donations for campus daycare centres. 5 p.m. Faculty Club. To order tickets, visit www.ualberta.ca/~awa.

May 4

Canadian Institutes of Health Research – Institute of Population and Public Health. CIHR integrates research through a unique interdisciplinary structure made up of 13 "virtual" institutes, each led by a scientific director who is, in turn, aided by a scientifica board. The IPPH aims to improve the health of populations and promote health equity in Canada and globally through research and its application to policies, programs and practice in public health and other sectors Please join us to hear from three CIHR Institute scientific directors who will share where their institutes are headed. 2:30–3:30 p.m. 1-040 (Oborowsky Degner Seminar Hall) Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation. To register go to http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=4926

May 9 & 10

China and India/Global Power Shift/Opportunities for Canada and Alberta. This conference will examine the rapid economic growth of China and India with expert guest speakers from Alberta, Canada, India and China. Registration for the conference ends on April 25. To register, go to www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/ipe/ipe_conference_2011.cfm.

Music for the masses

Carl Willis

The music poster wall on the east side of the Students' Union Building displays a creative take on engaging passersby.

laurels

Cindy Blackstock, professor in the Faculty of Extension and renowned advocate for First Nations children's rights, was the recipient of the 2011 National Aboriginal Achievement Award, which was broadcast on Global TV and APTV April 9.

It's another win for student **Tara Whitten**, who captured gold in the women's omnium at the Track Cycling World Championships in Apeldorn, Netherlands, March 27.

Local author and U of A alumnus **Todd Babiak** has been shortlisted for the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour for his book "Toby: A Man." The $15,000 Leacock Medal is awarded annually to the author of the funniest Canadian book of the year. The recipient will be announced April 28.

Kim Nguyen, student in the Department of Chemical Engineering and U of A Women in Science and Engineering treasurer, is the 2011 Prairies scholarship winner, which is awarded annually to the most promising woman in an accredited undergraduate engineering program in Canada. All of the recipients are actively involved in their communities, volunteer many hours to helping others and are strong role models for the engineering profession.

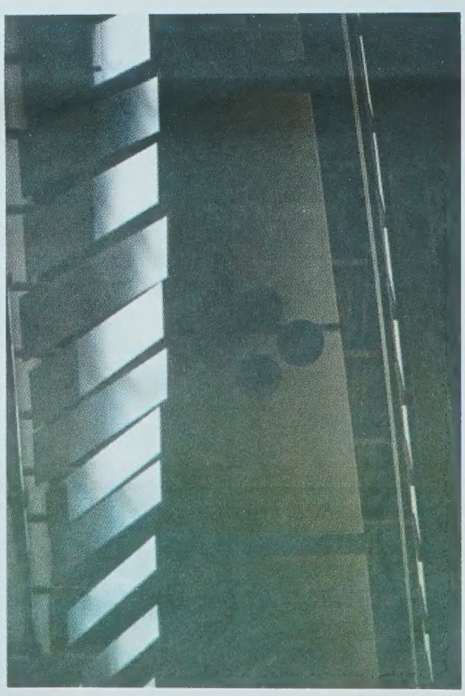
Anne Bissonnette, professor in the Department of Human Ecology, has been given a certificate of commendation from the Richard Martin Exhibition Award of the Costume Society of America for her exhibit In Mother's Hood: Inuit Packing Dolls of Taloyoak.

A *spectacle* to behold

The Faculty of Science moved into the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science during the first weekend of April and at last the university community is able to take a look inside the building that has replaced the old V Wing on historic Quad.

With more than 1,039 tonnes of steel, 825,000 cubic feet of concrete, three football fields of interior glass and 17,000 lamps, the new face of science has some impressive statistics behind its creation.

The move-in schedule for occupants continues into spring and the facilities will be completely ready to welcome the class of 2011–12 in the fall.



folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 2
And the winners are . . .
Academic Women's Association decides on two Women of the Year winners

Page 4
University 101
The evolution of the university's human research ethics policy continues

Page 9
Airport exhibit is the medium
Edmontonian who coined the phrase "the medium is the message" honoured with exhibit

Volume 48 Issue 17 | May 6, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Augustana Campus bids farewell to long-time dean

Christopher Thrall

On April 26 the Augustana Campus community said goodbye to retiring dean Roger Epp.

Senior university administration, representatives from municipal and provincial governments and residents from the city of Camrose gathered to celebrate the professor of 21 years and leader of the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus for the past eight. Epp's term as dean expires June 30; he will turn to a new career in the political science department on the U of A's North Campus.

Roger Epp (supplied photo)

"I was privileged to lead the Augustana campus through a period of tremendous change," said Epp, "but none of this is a solo act."

Epp's send-off was part of Augustana's annual Spring Soiree, hosted by Augustana Student Association president Sam Whittleton, and included several of Epp's colleagues, who offered their thanks for his leadership. U of A Board of Governors Chair Brian Heidecker stated that Augustana is leading the way with tremendous momentum into the future, thanks in part to Epp's leadership.

University Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Carl Amrhein spoke at length about Epp's achievements and his impact on the institutions and communities around him.

Continued on page 2

All smiles

Michael Holly

The Department of Dentistry held its 10th annual white coat ceremony at the Timms Centre for the Arts May 4 to honour the dentistry class of 2013. The ceremony features the themes of professionalism, humanism, ethics, integrity and, most symbolically, the donning of white coats for the first time.

U of A three-peats as one Canada's greenest employers

Michael Brown

For the third time in a row, the University of Alberta is gold when it comes to going green.

The U of A has once again been named one of Canada's Top 50 Green Employers by judges of the Canada's Greenest Employers competition. The designation recognizes employers that lead the nation in creating a culture of environmental awareness, who have developed exceptional Earth-friendly initiatives, and who are attracting people to their organizations because of their environmental leadership.

"Being named one of Canada's Top 50 Greenest Employers for the third year in a row shows the university's ongoing commitment to lessening its environmental impact," said Trina Innes, director of the U of A's Office of Sustainability. "It is also great recognition of the university's sustainability success stories, and is indicative of the time and energy that our institution invests in Earth-friendly initiatives like green cleaning, energy management and composting."

Some of the projects highlighted in the decision include the establishment of the Office of Sustainability to oversee and create awareness about the university's many environmental initiatives. Judges of the greenest employers also pointed out that the university's recycling program, established in 1975, now includes an in-house recycling transfer centre to compact recyclables, and even a "green demolition" program to encourage salvage and re-use of building materials as part of on-campus renovations and demolitions.

> "Sustainability is a journey that is about continuous improvement, and our university is dedicated to this journey."
>
> Trina Innes

Ensuring that the U of A remains a sustainability leader, the Office of Sustainability is collaborating to roll out new campus initiatives which include equipping grounds-maintenance electric vehicles with solar panels, overseeing an organic turf management pilot, implementing a greening the workplace program known as ecoREPs, and creating a campus-commitment program called One Simple Act on Campus to encourage students, faculty and staff to commit to one of 20 sustainable acts.

To help measure the U of A's sustainability progress alongside its post-secondary counterparts, and to see what other organizations are doing, Innes says the university is also a charter member of Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System.

"Sustainability is a journey that is about continuous improvement, and our university is dedicated to this journey and documenting our progress through STARS," said Innes.

Anatomy of a green revolution

A few of the other highlights of the U of A's greenest employers recognition include:

- Adopting sustainable cleaning practices, specifically the use of environmentally friendly cleaning chemicals that meet "Green Seal" and "Environmental Choice" standards.
- Composting organic kitchen waste in university dining facilities, as well as leaves and garden waste, for later use in landscaping projects across the campus.
- Launching a naturalization project on campus that is focused on reclaiming unused and non-native vegetation areas, and re-introducing native plant species that require less maintenance and water.
- Continuing on with a multi-year $25-million energy management program with completed projects saving over $3.3 million in utility costs annually and reducing associated carbon-dioxide emissions by 20,000 tonnes per year.
- Ensuring that all new provincially funded campus buildings are built to at least a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver certification standard.
- Introducing a new fuel efficient car-sharing program (managed by Connect by Hertz) on the U of A North Campus to provide short-trip transportation options and encourage employees to leave their cars at home.

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Staffer finds reward in the joy she brings to others

Raquel Maurier

A staff member with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry has recently returned from an international goodwill trip, where she helped in the construction of a new home for a Honduran family who had been living in a cramped wood shack, and assisted in distributing gifts to thousands of children in Chile's earthquake zone.

Shirley Auvigne, a teaching and learning specialist with the faculty, has been co-ordinating the shoebox collection for Operation Christmas Child for St. Albert and district for the past three years, and has packed shoeboxes of toys, school supplies and hygiene items for more than a decade. This is the first year she's been involved in an international trip to personally deliver the gifts to children living in difficult conditions. In total, her 18-person team of Canadians delivered 8,000 shoeboxes over four days. They travelled to numerous small communities about 600 kilometres south of Santiago, which had been hit by the 2010 earthquake.

After the Chilean leg of the trip wrapped up Feb. 28, Auvigne headed to Honduras where she was the project manager for a house was built for a single mother of three children. The 48-year-old single mother, whose name is Maria, is HIV positive and cannot get work because of her condition. Maria and her children have been living in a cramped, rundown 10-by-13-foot wooden structure with holes in the floor and roof, and no bathroom or kitchen. Auvigne's group selected the family to be the recipient of their group's fourth annual "house build."

Each year the group builds a clean, new concrete home for a family in need for free.

"Doing this work is extremely rewarding," says Auvigne. "It certainly is my passion. What I receive—to see the joy on people's faces—outweighs all the hard work. You build such a strong relationship with each family you work with. They are grateful for our efforts."

A little over four years ago, an Edmonton businessman told Auvigne he would like to donate money to a project that would help people in need, preferably in a poverty-stricken country. Days later, another businessman, Trevor Hoover, with the custom-home-building company Habitat Studio & Workshop, contacted Auvigne and told her the company would also like to get involved with an international aid initiative. Auvigne brought the parties together, and since then, more donors have signed on.

Supplied

Shirley Auvigne (right) has been co-ordinating the shoebox collection for Operation Christmas Child for St. Albert and district for the past three years.

Each year she goes to Honduras, Auvigne meets Hoover and three of his employees on site. Auvigne then manages the project and is responsible for organizing food and in-country transportation, finding a local translator and assisting on site. The home-building crew finishes its work in five days—making trusses, installing sheet metal roofing, framing, drywalling and installing windows, doors, electrical, sinks and plumbing.

The group plans to return to Honduras for years to come because the need is so great, says Hoover.

"We could build one house each week for the rest of our lives and we would still have more work to do. That's how desperate the need is. But it is good to know we are making a difference, one house at a time."

Academic Women's Association names Women of the Year

Michael Brown

The Academic Women's Association chose political science professor Malinda Smith and river-ice engineer Faye Hicks as co-winners of the 2011 Woman of the Year Award during the association's annual spring banquet May 3.

Smith, who teaches international relations, comparative politics and global critical race studies, was educated in the Bahamas and the United States before completing a PhD in political science at the University of Alberta. She has published widely on equity issues, serves as the chair of the Association of Academic Staff's Equity Committee and is a member of the U of A's Employment Equity Advisory Committee. Smith is the vice-president of equity issues for the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences and a member of the national steering committee of the Researchers and Academics of Colour for Equity network. She is the recipient of the 1998 Black Educators Award and the 2010 Centre for Race and Culture's Anti-Racism Award.

"Dr. Smith endeavours to transform the institutional conditions of the Canadian university locally and nationally so that it will someday become a more genuinely encouraging environment for women and under-represented groups," wrote one of Smith's nominators. "Dr. Smith's leadership, advocacy, and scholarship consistently affirm her creative ability and resolve, not only to grasp the challenges that women, Aboriginals and visible minorities face, but also to foster community support for the innovative solutions and projects she initiates in the interests of building an equitable and diverse workplace."

Hicks joined the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the U of A in 1989 as the first female tenure-track professor in the Faculty of Engineering . As a member of the Water Resources Engineering Group, her research has focused on advancing knowledge in river-ice processes and hydraulics, through experimental, numerical and field studies. She has published more than 100 articles in refereed journals and conference proceeding and has presented 25 invited talks in Canada and abroad. Twenty of the 45 engineering graduate students Hicks has supervised have been women; she has also mentored many women undergraduate and WISEST summer students.

In 2009, Hicks was the Hynes Lecturer at the Canadian Rivers Institute and awarded a Killam Professorship. In 2008, she was awarded the Camille A. Dagenais Award, the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering's highest award in hydrotechnical engineering, and a Premier's Silver Award of Excellence from the Government of Alberta. She has been awarded the Canadian Geophysical Union-Hydrology Section's Gerard Medal three times (1999, 2005 and 2011) and twice won a Faculty of Engineering Undergraduate Teaching Award (1993 and 2009).

"Dr. Hicks' wide range of research experience and design knowledge provides her with a wealth of information that she uses to captivate and stimulate students," wrote her nominator. "The results from student evaluations make it clear that she is an extremely effective teacher."

Supplied

Malinda Smith (left) and Faye Hicks were named the Academic Women's Association Women of the Year.

In addition to the positive written comments she receives from her students, Hicks has an excellent record in the numerical results of her evaluations. She was ranked consistently among the top five per cent in her department in teaching for the fundamental question concerning the excellence of the instructor.

"Dr. Hicks personifies the true qualities of a mentor, teacher and leader within the university—a champion for the promotion of women in science and engineering," wrote her nominator.

Under Epp Augustana has 'had a transformative effect on the university'

Continued from page 1

In recognition of Epp's work and commitment, the U of A has named the new Forum boardroom The Dr. Roger Epp Conference Room. A painting created by his wife, Rhonda Harder-Epp, will hang inside.

Camrose Mayor Marshall Chalmers and Bill Elliot, mayor of Wetaskiwin—who convened a regular city council meeting early so that his entire council could attend the farewell—thanked Epp for his tireless advocacy. Hobbema resident and former student Bruce Cutknife brought a gift from the Maskwachees Cultural College: a blanket, named "Big Medicine," in appreciation of Epp's efforts in reaching out to the Aboriginal community. Yvonne Becker thanked Epp on behalf of her colleagues at Augustana Campus for his unusual levels of skillfulness and selflessness, and for creating and sharing a vision that encompassed everyone as participants. "You didn't just build buildings," she said; "you made them home for us."

"Under his leadership," said Marc Arnal, dean of Campus Saint-Jean, "the Augustana campus has grown in so many ways and had a transformative effect on the university as a whole."

Supplied

Provost Carl Amrhein presents outgoing Augustana dean Roger Epp with a placard that renames the new Forum boardroom the Dr. Roger Epp Conference Room.

Certain stem-cell treatments can cause the body to attack itself

Raquel Maurier

Researchers in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry have made an important discovery that provides a new understanding of how our immune system "learns" not to attack our own body, and this could affect the way doctors treat patients with autoimmune diseases and cancer.

When patients undergo chemotherapy for cancer or as part of experimental therapies to treat autoimmune diseases such as diabetes and lupus, the treatment kills the patients' white blood cells. What can be done afterwards is to give these patients blood stem cells through transplantation. Stem cells are taken from patients and then injected back into them, the theory being that the patients' immune systems won't attack their own cells, and the stem cells can get to work healing their bodies.

However, U of A medical researchers Govindarajan Thangavelu, Colin Anderson and their collaborators discovered that if a particular molecule is not working properly in T-cells, the body will attack itself. This is significant for stem-cell transplantation treatment because it means the immune systems of the patients could consider their own cells "foreign" and initiate an attack. T-cells are supposed to protect people and animals from things invading their bodies. This research demonstrates that if these cells become unregulated because they are missing a molecule, it can lead to autoimmunity—which is particularly dangerous in scenarios where patients have lost white blood cells such as when they are being treated for autoimmune diseases or cancer.

"Your own cells would be killing you," says Thangavelu, a PhD student specializing in immunology who was the first author in the research study recently published in the peer reviewed *Journal of Autoimmunity*. "What we found is if this molecule is absent in T-cells, if the pathway isn't intact, it will cause severe autoimmunity to the subject's own body. In essence, subjects become allergic to their own cells."

Anderson, the principal investigator and an associate professor with both the Alberta Diabetes Institute and Department of Surgery, added: "The ability of our immune system to attack dangerous microbes while not attacking our own cells or tissues is a delicate balance. Restarting the immune system after wiping it out in patients with autoimmune diseases or cancer requires re-establishing this appropriate balance. We discovered that a particular immune system molecule is critical to prevent the immune system from attacking our own cells or tissues when the immune system is restarted. If that molecule is missing, the immune system will wreak havoc on the body."

Supplied

Govindarajan Thangavelu (pictured), Colin Anderson and their collaborators discovered that if a particular molecule is not working properly in T-cells the body will attack itself.

Thangavelu has won awards for this research. He was invited to present his work at an international conference of immunology in Japan last year. He has also travelled to the United Kingdom to talk about his findings with the medical community. This research was funded by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Alberta Innovates-Health Solutions and the Alberta Diabetes Institute.

Relief on the way for cancer patients suffering from dry mouth

Sandra Pysklywyc

For patients suffering from cancer in the mouth or throat, a recent study shows that a treatment called submandibular gland transfer will assist in preventing a radiation-induced condition called xerostomia.

Also known as dry mouth, xerostomia occurs when salivary glands stop working. University of Alberta researcher Jana Rieger likens the feeling of xerostomia to the after-effects of having surgery and anesthetic, specifically having a dry mouth, except the feeling is permanent.

While the importance of healthy saliva glands may be an afterthought for some patients when battling cancer, the long-lasting effects create a number of problems when they are in remission.

"We need saliva to keep our mouths healthy," said Rieger. "Without saliva, people can lose their teeth, dentures don't fit properly, and the ability to swallow and speak is severely altered."

The study conducted by Rieger, a speech language pathologist in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, looked at functional outcomes—speech changes, swallowing habits and the quality of life of patients with mouth and throat cancers—as they received two different types of treatments prior to and during radiation.

The first group of patients underwent the submandibular gland transfer. This method was pioneered by Hadi Seikaly and Naresh Jha at the University of Alberta in 1999. The transfer involves moving the saliva gland from under the angle of the jaw to under to the chin. Prior to this procedure, the saliva gland was in line for the radiation. "Most patients, when they are cured of cancer, complain of one major thing: dry mouth," Seikaly says.

The second group in the study took the oral drug salagen. Rieger says "studies have shown in the past that if this drug was taken during radiation, it might protect the cells in the salivary glands."

According to the study findings, both groups had the same results in terms of being able to speak properly but where the main difference was in swallowing. The group taking the drug had more difficulty.

"This group needed to swallow more, and it took a longer time to get food completely out of their mouth and into the esophagus," said Rieger. "Because they have trouble eating, they may become nutritionally compromised."

This leads to a host of other problems. Dry mouth causes one to drink large volumes of water, which leads to numerous trips to the bathroom. Difficulty swallowing causes issues with eating food while it's still hot, and it takes the patients a long time to complete a meal.

As a result of these problems, Rieger found the quality of life for most patients decreased significantly. "For people suffering from xerostomia no longer want to go out to eat or be in social settings. Consuming water to quench dry mouth means they have difficulty in getting a good night's sleep. Some become depressed and avoid going out."

Supplied

A study led by Jana Rieger has found that saliva gland surgery helps prevent xerostomia in throat and mouth cancer patients.

Based on this study, the authors hope to encourage patients to have the submandibular gland transfer as a preventative treatment for xerostomia prior to radiation for mouth and throat cancers.

Seikaly and Jha, as well as Jeffery Harris from the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and Judith Lam in Rehabilitation Medicine, also contributed to the study, which was published in *Head & Neck* in April 2011.

Study shows youth not that environmentally engaged

Bev Betkowski

They're socially engaged and represent the next generation. But young people aren't necessarily leading guardians of the environment, a University of Alberta study shows.

A random survey of 350 students done on the U of A campus revealed a 10 per cent lower level of participation in environmentally friendly activities than exists in the general public. As well, 70 per cent of the students felt it was too costly to live a more sustainable lifestyle, and 45 per cent felt it took too much time. A further 16 per cent consider their environmental impact a low priority.

Though a values scale showed that 76 per cent of the students surveyed felt strongly about preserving the environment, they didn't appear to be acting on that conviction.

"Even though students exhibit high values in environmental concern, they still don't exhibit the environmentally sustainable behaviour that would be predicted by those values," said Scott Wilson, one of the researchers who conducted the study for a fourth-year undergraduate project in the Department of Rural Economy.

While similar studies don't appear to have been done at other post-secondary institutions, the researchers hypothesize that "this kind of result would likely come up across most universities," Wilson noted.

Though the majority of students surveyed cited budget constraints or other factors—such as not having a say in household decisions—for not taking measures such as purchasing organic food, they did show high rates of participation in some ways, such as civic involvement (attending public rallies, volunteering) and using public transit or riding bicycles. However, they didn't have a high rate of participation in other low-cost, environmentally friendly measures such as reducing water or mending and reusing clothing.

"There is more that students or any young person on a budget can do to be environmentally responsible," Wilson said. "U of A students and likely other students in general are aware and do have pro-environmental behaviours. But many have a self-reported gap between what they would like to do and what they feel they can do."

The study recommends that issues of cost, knowledge and time for students be addressed. For instance, on-campus education campaigns could be launched, focusing on how students can save money by being environmentally friendly. Other measures include developing tangible campus-greening projects and increasing basic environmental curriculum for all students, Wilson said.

"Instilling environmentally favourable habits at the university level now will encourage the maintenance and growth of these behaviours over a lifetime," he added.

Be seen

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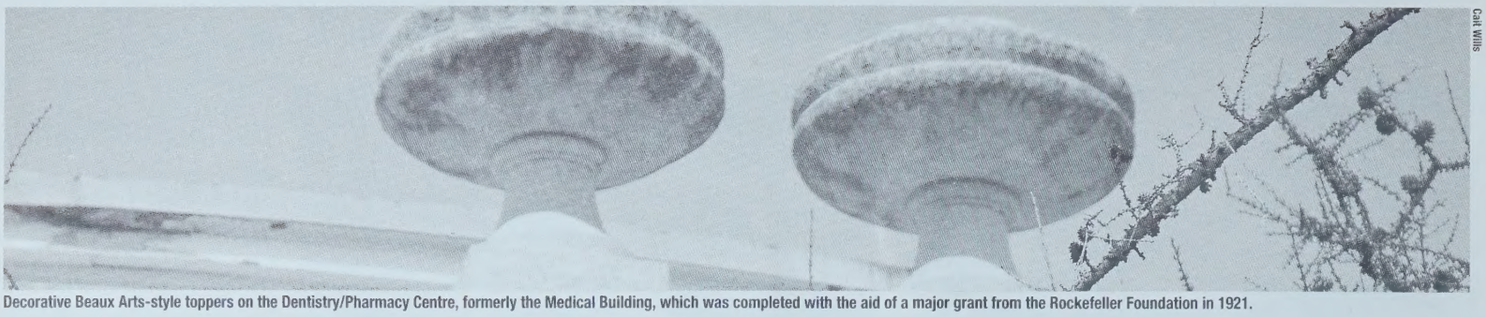
Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Clarence Gerda, whose name was drawn as part of folio's April 22 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Gerda correctly identified the photo in question as the main-floor transition of the Biological Science building and the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science. For his correct answer, Gerda has won a University of Alberta-issued stainless-steel coffee mug, as well as a U of A-emblazoned bookmark.

Up for grabs this week is a U of A-emblazoned water bottle coffee mug, as well as a U of A bookmark. To win, simply email what building the photo is of and email your answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, May 13, and you will be entered into the draw.



Gail Willis

Decorative Beaux Arts-style toppers on the Dentistry/Pharmacy Centre, formerly the Medical Building, which was completed with the aid of a major grant from the Rockefeller Foundation in 1921.

U of A human research ethics boards continued to evolve

Michael Brown

Although the approval process for human research ethics needs to be as thoughtful as the research itself, it need not be cumbersome.

Thus, May 11 will signal the latest chapter of the University of Alberta's careful refinement of its human research ethics policy and procedures when the new Human Research Ethics Policy and Procedures come into effect.

"The challenge, if you stop and think about the scope of research involving human participants, and writing policy and procedures that are applicable or suitable to all forms of research, is significant," said Susan Babcock, administrative director of the Research Ethics Office. "The research most people think about is clinical, or industry-sponsored drug trials. To be fair, a lot of the drive towards ethics standards and reviewable research comes out of a medical model."

The Tri-Council Policy Statement, with which compliance is a condition of eligibility for the University of Alberta's researchers to receive Tri-Council funding, has governed human research ethics since 1998. A revised policy statement was released late last year.

Subtitled *Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans*, the document is 150 pages and outlines the principles researchers must adhere to in conducting their research, especially concerning protection of the participants. It also calls for all universities to have their own policy statement and procedures around human research standards.

At the U of A, the way research ethics review was handled initially was to establish research ethics boards in each faculty. Babcock says 17 original research ethics boards were trimmed early on to 13, as faculties merged boards (the faculties of arts, science and law created their own board, as did the health science faculties) to address challenges, which resulted in inconsistencies in interpretation of policy, procedures for handling reviews, timeliness and resources.

"It is difficult to maintain continuity on smaller boards," said Babcock. "In small faculties where everyone knows everyone, how do you get that arm's length review? For the bigger faculties, we started to see interesting variations on how similar research was being reviewed."

One of the biggest challenges of research ethics, says Babcock, is that, for many researchers, it appears to be a bureaucratic obstacle. To help streamline the application process, the university implemented Human Ethics Research Online, or HERO, in 2008. While moving to an online system kept with the times, Babcock says researchers are still wary of a system that may be seen as arbitrary.

"Many researchers treat ethics review like some kind of black box. You drop something into it and if you are lucky, you get your ethics at the end of it," she said. "The challenge for the research ethics office is to reframe our process so researchers understand that they can consult with us in advance."

Another challenge in the reorganization was developing a model that offers something beyond the "biomedical and everything else model."

With that, the working group on this reorganization recommended four centrally administered research ethics boards that sit outside the faculties and relieve them of the burden of resourcing individual boards.

"Each board is capable, with a few exceptions, of reviewing the full range of ethics for human participant research, but they will tend to specialize in groupings of research methods that are more often associated with particular forms of risk," said Babcock. "We've deliberately chosen to number the boards rather than name them because if you name the different boards some people may feel left out."

University 101

> "The challenge for the Research Ethics Office is to reframe our process so researchers understand that they can consult with us in advance."
>
> Susan Babcock

Babcock says Board 1 focuses on what is often described as community-based research, where there may be a close or iterative relationship with the researcher and the subject group.

"Many qualitative studies would likely be reviewed by this board, as would participatory action and ethnography studies."

Board 2's focus will be on issues related mostly to privacy, anonymity, confidentiality and disclosure, while Board 3's concentration will be differential treatment of participants.

Once Research Ethics Board designation under the provincial Health Information Act has been determined, Board 4 will be responsible for processing ethics requests for biomedical research and clinical trials. "Here you will have to have physicians on the board who can read and understand the protocols being presented," said Babcock.

Another benefit of this new four-board system is how it addresses the ethics needs of interdisciplinary research. Under the previous policy, researchers had to get research ethics approval from each of the faculty research ethics boards involved.

"Under the new policy, interdisciplinary studies will need approval from only one research ethics board," said Babcock. "Researchers will be able to direct their study to the research ethics board best equipped to review their research.

Babcock says with staff in the Research Ethics Office ready to assist, choosing an application path should be easily identified.

"It is the same as submitting a grant application; you have to choose which funding agency is going to review your grant application. If someone submits their application to the wrong board, we have ways of redirecting the application quickly and without additional work by the researcher."

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Making indirect cost accounting easier

Lorne Babiuk, vice-president (research)

A working group struck by the President's Advisory Committee of Chairs has been asked to examine aspects of research administration where efficiency needs to be improved. Larry Kostiuk, chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and I co-chaired this working group, and it was composed of faculty members and administrative staff from the Research Services Office and TEC Edmonton.

One area the working group reviewed concerned the classification of research agreements as grants or contracts. Indirect costs refer to expenditures incurred in the conduct of research that are not readily or effectively traceable to specific activities, yet are real costs that must form part of the budget for a research project. Examples of indirect costs are building use, regulatory requirements and accreditation, renovation and maintenance of research facilities, library acquisitions and operating costs, animal care and administration costs.

In the former version of the procedure, the indirect cost-recovery rates varied according to how the research funding coming into the university was defined; the rate for grants and technical service agreements was 15 per cent, while the rate for contracts was 40 per cent.

In order to streamline discussions about indirect costs and expedite the processing of research funding agreements, the working group recommended a flat rate of 20 per cent for indirect costs, effective May 1. This recommendation was endorsed by PACC and the Deans' Council.

The revised procedure eliminates the discussion about the type of agreement being the basis for the differentiation. A minimum of 20 per cent of indirect costs is the standard recovery rate for grants, contracts and services. This new rate mirrors the rate that has been provided by the Tri-Council Agencies in the past and is, therefore, subject to change. Several of the major research universities in Canada have or are moving towards a flat rate for indirect costs.

An example of how the new procedure will reduce delay is the degree of expediency in having a contract agreed to by an external sponsor. By having a set rate of return for indirect costs, the researcher can supply a sponsor with an agreement template that clearly outlines both the needs of the university and those of the project sponsor. Applying a flat rate of indirect costs to the funds allocated through grants, contracts and technical services agreements eliminates selecting the agreement terms based on the rate of indirect costs, and refocuses the choice of agreement terms to those necessary to allocate rights and risk.

the open door

Another change to the procedure is that it now documents the current practice of not applying indirect costs to matching industry funding for awards involving contributions from a recognized major granting council (e.g. CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC) and a private company.

Agreements and applications that were negotiated by the university before May 1 and contain budgets reflecting a former indirect costs rate will continue to be honoured. New agreements and renewals of existing agreements that occur after May 1 will be subject to the revised procedure.

This procedure will apply to general research accounts and lab accounts; however, the Research Services Office will not be making updates to the rate applied to general research accounts and lab accounts that are already set up until Sept. 1.

It is important to note that the internal allocation of indirect costs has not been changed; it is part of the Indirect Costs of Research Policy which has not been revised.

The revised Application of Indirect Costs Recovery Procedure is now available at U of A Policies and Procedures online.

Professor invited to major conference thanks to insight into chronic pain

Holly Gray

Cary Brown, professor of occupational therapy at the University of Alberta's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, will be heading to Baden-Baden, Germany this August as the Outstanding Scholarly Contribution Award winner and a keynote speaker at the jointly held 31st annual meeting of the International Institute for Advanced Studies and the 23rd International Conference on Systems Research, Informatics and Cybernetics.

Cary Brown

"I'm really excited to be going because the idea-exchange opportunities are going to be amazing," Brown said. "I was very pleased because the person who contacted me is a well-known scholar in complexity theory. I thought, 'It's *the* George Lasker,' so I felt quite flattered."

And so she should. IIAS president Lasker wrote that the 2011 OSCA "is a scientific equivalent of the OSCAR Award given in the movies," and that Brown's work is "unique and represents Canada at its best."

Brown received the honour for her paper, *Mazes, Conflicts, and Paradox: Tools for Understanding Chronic Pain*. To understand the topics covered in the paper, Brown says to imagine having a whiplash injury after a car accident. With support from family, friends, health-care providers and coworkers, the patient could be feeling better in no time.

"But what if your injury has left you jobless and financial burdens are stacking up?" she asks. "Friends may start avoiding you because the other driver was injured and they think the accident was your fault. Your family is upset that your pain is slowing you down. How might these factors influence your recovery process? Injury and healing are not a straightforward process and little events can have large, long-lasting effects."

The idea that how pain is experienced is unique to each individual and involves many social and personal factors unknown to health-care providers, such as insurance company policies and self-image, is also explored in Brown's piece.

She is one of the first to apply a complex adaptive systems theory to understanding chronic pain. She describes the understanding of why people have chronic pain and what can be done to alleviate it as "elusive as panning for gold with our bare hands."

But Brown believes framing chronic pain as a complex system influenced by paradox, conflict and interactions between unknown variables will enable health-care professionals to find better strategies to help patients manage their chronic pain. She explains that some health issues are linear, such as broken bones and bacterial infections, but chronic pain is much more complex.

"We say, 'You have a broken leg, we'll put a cast on it, it'll heal,'" Brown says. "Here's the problem, here's the cure, here's the end result. And usually that kind of approach works for those kinds of problems. But then there are problems that aren't so straightforward, like drug abuse, diabetes and chronic pain. Those things are influenced by interactions between other factors such as social networks, culture, politics, environment and personal beliefs. So they don't follow a straightforward cause-and-effect pathway. The outcome can be unanticipated and how we deal with that unexpected emergent behaviour determines whether there is a positive or negative outcome."

> "The idea-exchange opportunities are going to be amazing."
>
> Cary Brown

She also thinks that health-care providers should take paradox (two contradicting things existing at the same time) into consideration when dealing with the chronic pain experience.

"Paradox is a characteristic of complex systems, and recognizing that helps us understand what forces may be acting on the person with pain," she says. "Paradox in chronic pain management could be the belief that pills are good for you because they take away the pain, but at the same time people fear that pills are addictive.

"So that paradox is going on for people with chronic pain and it causes a lot of conflict. It can lead to actions that the health-care provider can't understand and keeps people with pain unable to move forward and unable to actually resolve their pain."

Dispelling myths about people with disabilities by teaching new ways of thinking

Jane Hurly

It's not unusual for students to send Joanna Clair photos of washroom signs.

But this isn't for an unusual art project; it's a lesson in awareness and building better understanding of the language and symbols associated with disability and how those enhance or detract from perceptions, attitudes and assumptions about people who experience disabilities.

Joanna Clair

It's all part of Clair's class in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation at the University of Alberta that explores physical activity and recreation for special populations, and one of the challenges is to open students' eyes to prejudice and stimulate new ways of thinking about disability.

"A great learning moment in the class is when we look at language and disability," she says. "For example, we look at the symbols on accessible washrooms and the words these symbols evoke. Students often say 'weak, old, inactive, frail and needy.' But if you change the image by putting the arm back as though the person were pushing off, or draw speed lines behind the wheels the image becomes strong and athletic with just two changes."

Because Clair believes that experience is the best teacher, students have opportunities to learn from and interact with individuals with a variety of disabilities, including those who have spinal-cord injuries, stroke, muscular dystrophy, hearing impairments or double-limb amputations. "When the students share a lived experience and meet a real person with a disability, they see the person first," says Clair.

Clair—who recently received a lectureship in the faculty to teach courses in adapted physical activity as well as her second-year class—will also teach three senior-level courses: one on assessment and service delivery for special populations, one on physical activity for older adults and another on active living for individuals with developmental disabilities.

"My intent is to dispel myths," Clair says, adding that she's a firm believer in community service learning. To that end she's developed strong ties to community associations so the students' learning is peppered with experiences of working alongside people with disabilities. "When students have an experience working with a person with Down syndrome, autism or cerebral palsy, they can understand so much better, and it gives them that all-important one-on-one contact, opening them up to a new experience and view of people with disabilities."

> When the students share a lived experience and meet a real person with a disability, they see the person first."
>
> Joanna Clair

At heart, says Clair, it's the rewards of teaching that drive her. "I love the classroom. I like it because it's tangible and because you can often get an immediate sense of engagement, excitement and interest from the students. Most of all I want to create a learning environment that inspires them."

Augustana German prof teaches 'whole person' first

Christopher Thrall

teaching & learning, learning & teaching

In late April Kim Fordham was informed that she had received the University of Alberta's Rutherford Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. The award is based on how former students, colleagues who have watched her teach and those across the country respond to her teaching.

"I think that reaction is the key," said Fordham, a professor of German at the U of A's Augustana Campus, about the honour. "It is a valuing that comes from all levels. Students may not remember the grammar rules that they learned in German class, but they remember that my teaching has to do with the whole person."

The morning Fordham received news of her award, a former student came by her office to have coffee. She brought a letter telling Fordham what her teaching had meant in her life. "Attached to that," Fordham said, "she gave me the letter that she wrote for the Rutherford Award. It's very moving to read all that. Then, that afternoon, I got the phone call." The graduate's letter proves, says Fordham, that her students feel there is value in what she teaches.

Supplied

Augustana's Kim Fordham won a U of A Rutherford Award of Excellence in Undergraduate teaching.

"Through your teaching and your example," writes the former student, "you have shown me what it means to be a woman of strength, compassion and courage. With your encouragement and guidance, I have learned to think critically and ask questions instead of simply following along with what everyone else thinks.

"I have realized the importance of speaking out on societal issues," the student's note continues. "I have found the strength to use my voice and help those who have lost theirs."

Fordham has taught German at Augustana since 1991 and was recognized with an Augustana Distinguished Teaching Award in 2000. She is also the volunteer director of the CSSG. This year, she was not only appointed a full professor but was confirmed for a second term as chair of the Augustana humanities department before she received word of the U of A award.

"Having them in the order that they came was important," Fordham says. "The full professor evaluation came first, so I was granted the full professorship regardless of the fact that I was successfully reappointed as chair and of the fact that I got the Rutherford Teaching Award.

"It's exciting to think about what my teaching means, what it means to me and what it means to students," Fordham says. "The day after I heard, I wanted to celebrate with my students in some way. I went and bought each of my students a flower. It is the students—the wonderful students that I have—who make my job so much fun, who make it possible for me to win awards."

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Etc....

Study finds Mercury converted to its most toxic form in ocean waters

Brian Murphy

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Igor Lehnherr's research group travelled by ship through the Canadian Arctic to collect incubated seawater samples.

University of Alberta-led research has confirmed that a relatively harmless inorganic form of mercury found worldwide in ocean water is transformed into a potent neurotoxin in the seawater.

After two years of testing water samples across the Arctic Ocean, the researchers found that relatively harmless inorganic mercury, released by human activities like industry and coal burning, undergoes a process called methylation and becomes deadly monomethylmercury. Methylation, in this case, is the addition of a methyl group to heavy metals catalyzed by certain enzymes.

Lead U of A researcher Igor Lehnherr says the greatest exposure to monomethylmercury for humans is through the consumption of marine-based foods. "Unlike inorganic mercury, monomethylmercury both bio-accumulates and bio-magnifies, meaning its toxic effects are amplified as it progresses through the food chain," said Lehnherr. "Humans are at the top of the food chain, so we're getting the highest content of this neurotoxin through contaminated seafood."

Lehnherr, who was recently awarded his PhD in biological sciences, says the data collected in the Arctic Ocean paints a disturbing picture. "The conversion of inorganic mercury to monomethyl mercury accounts for approximately 50 per cent of this neurotoxin present in polar marine waters," said Lehnherr. "Those high levels could also account for a significant amount of the mercury found in Arctic marine organisms."

For the study, Lehnherr's research group incubated seawater samples, collected from the Canadian Arctic Archipelago, with stable inorganic mercury. Lehnherr found that the relatively harmless inorganic mercury was converted, through methylation, into the neurotoxin monomethylmercury.

"We believe the methylation process is happening in oceans all over the world," said Lehnherr.

The researchers say this is the first direct evidence that inorganic mercury is methylated in seawater. The research team is now going to look at how the process works.

"We're 90 per cent sure that the methylation process is carried out by microbial life forms in the ocean like algae," said Lehnherr.

The research was published earlier this month online in *Nature Geoscience*.

Life-enriching design exhibition highlights the best of the discipline

Michael Davies-Venn

Imagine not having to give up your home to take up residency in an assisted-living facility simply because of old age, or imagine having seamless access to buildings and services while using a wheelchair. What about a health-care system where computer scientists, designers, architects, pharmacists and a host of other professionals work together to provide the ultimate care?

At the University of Alberta, such suppositions translate into tangible outcomes researchers say will change our relationship with our environment while helping us live longer, happier, independent lives. But to get there, design changes to just about everything—from buildings to pill dispensers—need to happen.

"Most designs today don't take into account ideas of equitable use, quality of use, access, simplicity of use or reduction of error. That is where we are coming from," said Robert Lederer, industrial art and design professor at the U of A. And the direction, Lederer says, should head toward an approach called universal design, which is commonly defined as broad-spectrum ideas meant to produce buildings, products and environments that are inherently accessible to both people with and without disabilities.

"We who practice universal design consider the psychological well-being of the user. So in a user-centred designed space, for example—which is part of universal design theory—people are happier and perform better. Universal design is about providing the best possible facility, whether it's a space, a device or system, which can allow someone to be the best they are. It is about the sensitivity of needs," said Lederer.

Lederer and his colleagues are exhibiting samples of their designs that they say goes beyond the theoretical applications of universal design to highlight solutions to real, everyday problems.

The exhibition, *More than just Universal Design*, features the work of various faculties and departments including computing science, occupational therapy and the Faculty of Extension. Features include the Moon Table, which provides a user-centred dining experience for people with vision loss and a dialysis chair that changes how a patient receives a blood transfusion, making it possible for patients to read, draw or play board games while receiving treatment in the upright position. A watch that doubles as a glucose monitor for diabetics will also be on display.

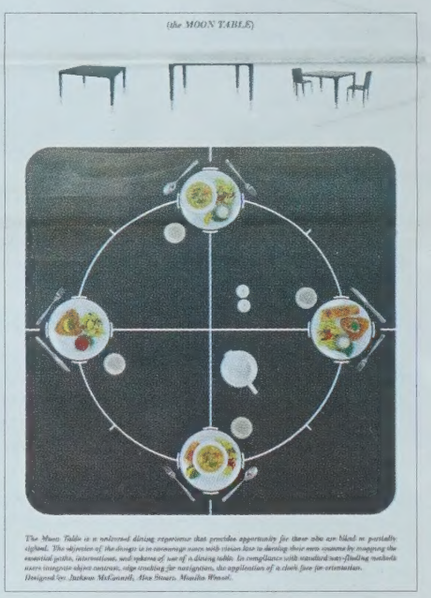
Lederer says universal design is also a less expensive approach to dealing with issues arising from an increasingly older population.

"Governments can't afford to build more assistive care centres," he said. "It is much cheaper and cost-effective to keep people in their homes as long as possible. And to make that possible, we have to change a lot of elements within their environments and provide them with systems that will allow them to safely stay in their homes."

Lederer says a smart condo is one example of such a system. The smart condo is a prototype living space designed at the U of A that enables elderly people with medical conditions to live independently. Its design allows for monitoring systems that relay information on the health status of its occupant to health-care professionals, who could quickly respond when needed. Lederer says that, by understanding and monitoring the health status of an occupant in the condo, a noticeable change in their condition would provide professionals time to deal with patient problems before they become emergencies.

"What usually happens is that when someone ends up in the emergency room once or twice, the response has been, 'off you go to the nursing home.'" Lederer said. "A lot of times when patients are taken to these facilities, they deteriorate faster due to depression; this is especially so for people in the early stage of Alzheimer's disease who are taken out of their known environment."

The exhibition runs at the atrium of Enterprise Square until May 18.



The Moon Table is a universal dining experience that provides opportunity for those who are blind or partially sighted. The objective of the design is to encourage users with vision loss to develop their own routines by integrating the essential paths, interactions, and spheres of use of a dining table. In compliance with standard way-finding methods users integrate object contrast, edge marking for navigation, the application of a clock face for orientation. Designed by: Jackson MacLennan, Alex Stuart, Monika Wosok

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Sound communication leads to animal care award

Ken Mathewson

Clover Bench, professor of applied ethology—the study of observing animals in their natural environment—in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, was honoured April 14 with the Alberta Farm Animal Care Award of Distinction for Communication.

Clover Bench

The accolade honours individuals who go beyond innovations in animal care, and take a proactive approach in conveying their findings to fellow researchers and industry leaders.

Although Bench is well respected throughout the industry for her extensive background and experience, she feels that the primary reason for the confidence industry leaders have in her is her candour and straightforwardness.

"The science is important, obviously, but the benefits need to be communicated in order to give them some practical value," said Bench, who adds that she tries to stick to the facts. "I explain to people, 'Here's what we know, here's what we don't know and here are some of the questions we should be asking.' That helps to keep the conversation constructive."

Growing up in the heart of San Jose, California, she was far removed from farm life until her discovery of the Emma Prusch Farm Park. Originally an 87-acre dairy farm, the land was bequeathed to the city of San Jose as an area for local citizens to learn about farm life. The local 4-H club was quickly established, and Bench was one of the first to join.

"I'm originally a city kid," she said, "but amazingly, I had the opportunity to raise livestock in the middle of a city that's known for the dot-com industry."

Although the award is traditionally given to individuals approaching the end of their careers, Bench said that she has no plans to ease up on the throttle.

"I feel that it tells me I'm on the right track, and to keep up with what I'm doing," she said.

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The dog days of an artist's sabbatical

Dawn Ford

Each day Harold Pearse dates a page and, for two to 20 minutes, he draws.

Ever since his son gave him a sketchbook in 1987, Pearse, who is an art instructor in elementary education at the Faculty of Education at the University of Alberta, has been drawing daily.

"The nature of the imagery is thematic, reflecting personal interest," says the artist who focused on the Canadian Mountie during his first decade of drawing. He says he was drawn to Mounties after first reading about them and seeing postcards as a boy growing up on Vancouver Island. "I remember seeing them marching in a local parade and thinking one day I might become one," says the artist, teacher and researcher.

"After I focused on the Canadian Mountie, I focused on drawing my dog or cat. I then combined dogs with Mounties, until the dog seemed to take over my work," says Pearse.

In 1999, during a sabbatical from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Pearse drew a picture of his dog every day for one year. These drawings became 366 small paintings for the series *my year as a dog*. Pearse's drawings and paintings, occasionally displayed in the education art wing, have become a common conversation theme among education art students and others around campus.

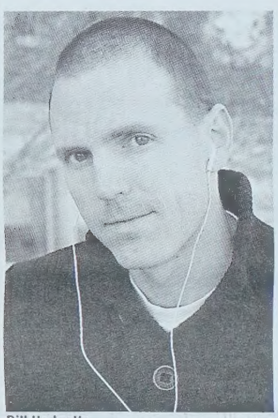
Today, Pearse has amassed 70 books representing more than 20 years of daily drawing. "Each day, each page, is a discreet small image that can stand on its own merits and each filled book is an object that contains sequential serialized images," says Pearse. "What continues to give this project its impetus is that each small page, drawing and book is a part of a larger concept, which is to draw every day," says Pearse. His research in part includes the educational implications of daily drawing and journal keeping.

"Daily drawing keeps the drawing muscles—eye, hand and brain—fit. For an adult or adolescent, the routine and discipline of daily drawing relaxes the mind. With devotion and persistence, increased skill and fluency in drawing can develop," says Pearse. For a child, daily drawing can be a kind of game imbued with the fun that comes with spontaneous expression and the satisfaction that comes with completing a task within or in spite of certain parameters."

Supplied

In 1999, Harold Pearse drew a picture of his dog every day for one year. These drawings became 366 small paintings for the series "my year as a dog."

A practicing artist in drawing and painting, Pearse has work exhibited in the Front Gallery in Edmonton, and in March of 2011 his work was featured in the four-gallery exhibition at the Dalhousie Art Gallery. Titled *Traffic: Conceptual Art in Canada from 1965 to 1980*, this exhibition will show in Edmonton this summer at the Art Gallery of Alberta.



Bill Hodgetts

Better hearing in the developing world just an app away

Laurie Wang

People with hearing problems living in the developing world may have a solution on the horizon, thanks to an innovative University of Alberta professor in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine.

Bill Hodgetts, professor in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, submitted an idea to a national competition, Grand Challenges Canada, for an iPhone/iPod Touch application that will test and amplify sound for the user.

"The developing world doesn't have the people to do the testing or care, and I hope my application will fill that gap," said Hodgetts, who is program director of bone conduction amplification at the Institute for Reconstructive Sciences in Medicine at the U of A.

Traditional hearing aids range in price from $2,000 to $7,000, but the cost of an iPod Touch or even an iPhone may be more reasonable for someone in a developing country. Already many people in developing countries own a cellular handheld device and, with close to 300 million hearing-impaired people in the world and two thirds of them residing in developing nations, Hodgetts sees an opportunity to help.

Hodgetts' application would test the person's hearing and then adjust the amplification of the sound accordingly. So when the application is on, people can speak to the hearing impaired person, and the sound picked up from the device's microphone is then amplified into the earphones so the person can hear more clearly. Hodgetts also proposes that, for every application purchased in a developed nation, one person in a developing country will receive the application for free.

"I want to develop a resource that is relatively affordable and simple—usable with only a phone and earphones—to make a huge difference in a person's world of hearing," explained Hodgetts.

Grand Challenges Canada is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of people in developing countries by integrating scientific, technological, business and social innovation both in Canada and in the developing world.

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Researchers propose music theory that includes the listening experience

Michael Davies-Venn

By breaking down traditional barriers between disciplines, two University of Alberta researchers say opportunities could develop that may change how we experience music. And that's just the start of possibilities.

Their concept has received the attention of music theorists across North America, and in fact, the duo won a coveted Cambridge University Press award for their research, which was recently presented at the Society for American Music conference.

Mary Ingraham, U of A musicology professor, and Michael MacDonald, ethnomusicologist and post-doctoral fellow, say their study bridges the gap between musicology—a Western European-based historical and analytical study of music—and ethnomusicology, which focuses on the dynamic relationship between a performer and audience.

To prepare the work, *Head Hunters, War Canoes and the Reciprocal Negotiation of Ritual Performance*, which won them the award, Ingraham and MacDonald examined two historical films produced with the same footage (but with different sound tracks) of a Kwakwaka'wakw potlatch. The Kwakwaka'wakw are an Aboriginal on the north coasts of Vancouver Island and mainland British Columbia; the potlatch is a cultural community event composed of story, song, ritual and drama.

The researchers focused on music performance during their study. MacDonald said, "While most study of music looks at music performance from a European point of view, which is the musician as performer and audience as spectators, the community event we studied proposes a alternative perspective, that of performance as community building through belonging."

> "Once we acknowledge that listening is a profound experience, then we can explore the way that impact is felt."
>
> Michael MacDonald

He says their approach brings together two fields of study, ethnomusicology and musicology.

MacDonald explained that more than half a century ago, musicologists realized that they were studying a very limited amount of the music of the world and that they had to develop new approaches. "So they turned to anthropology to develop a new hybrid approach and came up with one that is partly anthropology and musicology: ethnomusicology," MacDonald said. "An unexpected consequence is that now there are two unique disciplines that work quite separately, instead of one richer musicology."

One implication of that separation is that musicologists often do not regard the audience as having a role in creating and playing music. But the opposite is true for most ethnomusicologists, who regard the audience as participants.

"We are working on an intercultural model of performance theory that considers the activity of the audience," said Ingraham. "Typical Western performance theory draws a fourth wall between performer and audience, but the fact is, being there as an audience member, we're not just passively receiving information."

By bringing the two areas of study together, Ingraham said their study has opened a whole new area to consider, such as the active role an audience plays in music, which traditionally has not been of concern to musicologists. Also the study offers a host of other possibilities to consider, from how we experience music to how we develop a taste for our favourite tunes.

"This research goes in many exciting directions. Once we acknowledge that listening is a profound experience, then we can explore the way that impact is felt," MacDonald said. "For example, acknowledging that listening is far more than just a momentary experience lets us consider it as a key role in belonging, which itself may be more properly recognized as a very accessibly type of social therapy."

Francophone theatre highlighted linguistic duality

Jamie Hanlon

Western Canada could be considered home to some avant-garde French-Canadian theatre, says University of Alberta's Louise Ladouceur. But what makes it different from, say, Quebec theatre, makes it routine in the lives of francophones on the Prairies.

The Campus Saint-Jean theatre professor's article in the *International Journal of Francophone Studies* explores a transformation in French-Canadian plays west of Quebec and their growing use of both English and French dialogue. Drawing on examples of plays written by francophones from Ontario and Manitoba, Ladouceur says that while the notion of bilingualism may once have been considered a threat to French speakers, the artistic shift of using both official languages is symbolic of bilingualism's indispensible nature in a minority context. Not only is the concept of a bilingual play a different way to look at theatre, she notes, but also is a different way for francophones to view themselves.

"In Manitoba playwright Marc Prescott's play, *Sex, Lies et les Franco-Manitobains*, one of his characters says, 'I am not francophone; I am not anglophone. I am bilingual. That's what I am,'" said Ladouceur. "In a minority context, being bilingual is not a flaw; it is an essential condition to remain francophone. This attitude towards bilingualism is a very important shift."

The shift also brings out the reality of environment, she says. Using *Les Belles Soeurs*, a famous play by Quebec playwright Michel Tremblay, as an example, Ladouceur notes that the use of Quebecois slang in the play was heavily criticized at the time. The playwright defended his use of the language, saying that by having these characters speak any other way would be a false representation of that cultural and environmental reality. Just as Tremblay used "joual," or slang, in *Les Belles Soeurs* to depict the linguistic reality of Montrealers, so, too, do French-Canadian playwrights in Western Canada need to use English to depict their reality, says Ladouceur.

This new attitude of linguistic duality provides an intercultural experience for theatregoers. Regardless of whether a person is bilingually or unilingually French or English, Ladouceur says, each will take away their own understanding of the play from their distinct linguistic perspective.

However, she notes that perhaps the most important lesson to learn from this form of theatre is found in learning to understand each other. And to make their plays even more accessible to anglophones, she says, professional francophone theatre groups have added subtitles, another shift that shows signs of inclusive evolution in French-Canadian theatre.

"It's a question of sharing, of making what we do in French accessible," she said. "I think it is a sign of maturity in the francophone theatres. We are now confident enough in what we do that we want it to be seen and understood by everybody, including our anglophone peers."

Study finds the immigrant health advantage lost on future generations

Andrea Lauder

The health advantages that immigrants enjoy over native Canadians are not passed along to their children, says a new University of Alberta study.

Katerina Maximova, professor with the School of Public Health, analyzed data from approximately 6,400 low-income children in an inner-city Montreal neighbourhood who were followed for more than five years. Within this group, 104 countries of origin were represented, which Maximova says was crucial to understanding how the Body Mass Index changes for immigrant children as they grow.

The study covered new-to-Canada immigrant children, second-generation immigrants—children born in Canada whose parents immigrated to Canada—and native-born Canadian children between the ages of nine and 12 years. These groups were further sorted by cultural background such as European, Asian and South American. All of the children came from similar depressed socio-economic backgrounds.

The data revealed striking indicators: The healthy weight advantage that new-to-Canada immigrant children enjoy is not evident in second-generation immigrants or native-born Canadian children. "The advantage is lost with each successive generation that lives in Canada," says Maximova.

"The data suggests that, the longer you live in Canada, the more likely it is that you'll adopt an unhealthy lifestyle."

As time goes on, she says, the BMI of immigrant youth begins to converge with the BMI of the unhealthier native-born Canadian youth. This suggests a need for more resources to be directed towards low-income communities where immigrants often settle in order to develop environments that support healthy choices.

"For instance, if immigrant children move into neighbourhoods where there are playgrounds for them to be active, few fast food outlets to tempt them to make less healthy choices, and people around who are eating healthily and exercising as part of their social environment, I think we will see a difference on their BMI," says Maximova.

"New immigrants want to adopt Canadian ways when they arrive, particularly youth. Within this specific age group, the pressure to fit in to Canadian cultural norms is multiplied even further," she adds.

As immigrants continue to represent the fastest growing demographic group in Canada, this research is timely and important for future planning and resource allocation, says Maximova. The next step in the research is to further test the data to see if BMI is truly tied to lifestyle and behaviours.

"We want to know more about how we can help immigrants preserve their health advantage and perhaps learn from them to promote and protect the health of all Canadians," says Maximova.

Maximova's study was recently published in the *Annals of Epidemiology*.

McLuhan airport exhibit is the medium

Michael Davies-Venn

The Edmontonian who coined the famous phrase, "the medium is the message," is now giving people flying out of Edmonton a few ideas to ponder as they board their flight. Researchers and students from the University of Alberta, and one from the Northern Institute of Technology, have installed an exhibition, *The McLuhan TV Wall*, in the Edmonton International Airport's departure lounge.

The multimedia piece comprises nine vintage and contemporary television sets, each playing a different interview clip by literary critic, media theorist and author Marshall McLuhan.

McLuhan is considered one of the most influential thinkers of the 20th century, and his social commentaries have helped shape society, says Marco Adria, director of the Faculty of Extension's Master of Arts in Communications and Technology program, who organized the exhibition.

"McLuhan saw that television was going to permanently change our habits on reading and writing," says Adria. "He saw the advent of television as a shift towards a more visual culture where we relied on pictures and sounds rather than the written word."

The show, which will be on display until November, highlights McLuhan's many television appearances from the early 1950s until the late 1970s. It also features life-sized displays showing McLuhan as a child in Edmonton and receiving an honorary degree from the U of A in 1972.

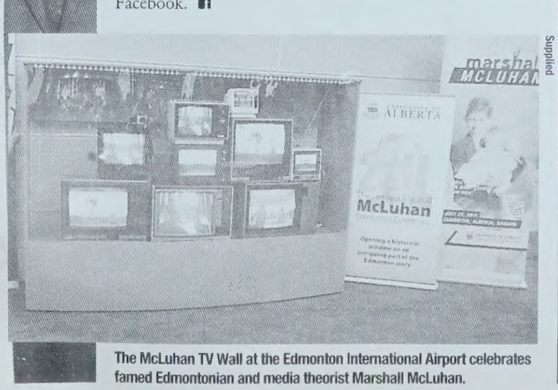
Adria says the exhibition celebrates the birth of McLuhan, who was born in Edmonton 100 years ago this year. "There are celebrations around the world, mainly in Europe. We felt that Edmonton should be part of that because very few people know that McLuhan was born in Edmonton."

Adria says the designers of the exhibit also hope that it in some way helps illustrate and demonstrate McLuhan's aphorism.

"The 'medium is the message' is something that can be applied in many contexts over time in different ways. I'm hoping [McLuhan's statement] is something that people can understand better or apply while they're looking at this exhibit," he said.

McLuhan's ideas on the impact of technology on human consciousness are still pertinent today, said Adria. "Many of the things he said were contradictory. He never felt that the effects of television could be stopped. And it was not his intention to provide a kind of counterweight to technology, but he wanted people to wake up from some of the illusions that media create," said Adria.

"McLuhan felt that modern society was characterized by people who were only half awake, and that we were using radio and television as a means of pretending that we are awake," he said. "The same questions he asked about the effects of television, on whether we're asleep to the effects of television, are relevant now as we try to understand this new generation of social media, such as twitter and Facebook."



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The McLuhan TV Wall at the Edmonton International Airport celebrates famed Edmontonian and media theorist Marshall McLuhan.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Engineers take top spots at business plan competition

Two entrepreneurial teams of engineering students have won first and second place in a provincial business plan competition.

Materials engineering students Trina Salvisberg, Julian Neira and Mustafa Jamaly won first place and a $6,000 prize in the student category of the TEC Venture Business Plan Competition April 27. Electrical engineering PhD students Jaron Van Dijken and Michael Thomas and chemistry PhD student Brian Worfolk took second place in the competition's fast-growth category.

Salvisberg and her teammates are pitching a business plan based on new technology to manufacture an ultra-capacitor for hybrid vehicles. Capacitors are ubiquitous in electronic devices like camera flashes because they collect energy and release it in a single burst. In this case, the students are using nanotechnology to develop ultra-capacitors that outperform anything on the market several times over.

The students' device would absorb braking energy in a hybrid vehicle and use it to accelerate the vehicle once it starts moving again. Their design is based on research by Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering professors Weixing Chen and Xinwei Cui and uses nanomaterials that are tiny but cover a large surface area—a bonus in ultra-capacitor design.

The project began last fall when the three formed part of a team in professor Ted Heidrick's project management and entrepreneurship course. Their success at the Venture Prize competition marks the second time in as many years that students in the class have taken their business plans all the way to a first-place finish.

Canada's Arctic glaciers losing water at an alarming rate

Faculty of Science PhD graduate Alex Gardner's research has revealed some alarming evidence that Canada's Arctic glaciers and ice caps have lost nearly as much water as there is in Lake Erie.

Gardner, a former student of Earth and atmospheric science professor Martin Sharp (a co-author on the paper) spent six years monitoring Arctic ice and found that in 2009 the ice-loss rate was four times larger than estimated by NASA for the mid- to late-1990s.

The measurements Gardner and his colleagues made on the ice and with satellites show the rate of ice loss "sharply increased" between 2004 and 2009, with ice loss increasing to as much as 93 cubic kilometres a year.

Gardner, who now works at the University of Michigan, conducted most of the research during his time at the U of A and says the ice loss has increased sharply "in direct response to warmer summer temperatures" since 2004. The losses have been so sharp that he and his colleagues believe the Canadian Arctic Archipelago was the single largest contributor to global sea-level rise outside Greenland and Antarctica between 2007 and 2009.

"Even though these Canadian glaciers and ice caps are small compared to the huge ice sheets, they play a significant role in sea-level rise," says Gardner.

The glaciers and ice caps are dwarfed by the colossal Greenland Ice Sheet next door. But the researchers say they are a major player in the climate-change equation because they hold so much water and are "highly sensitive" to rising temperatures.

"The amount of water contained in all of the ice caps and glaciers in the Canadian Arctic is three-and-a-half times the water in all of the Great Lakes," says Gardner.

Medical hall of fame inducts famed U of A virologist

Lorne Tyrrell is one of six "medical heroes" who joined the ranks of 82 Canadian Medical Hall of Fame laureates April 28 in London, Ont. He will be inducted in two categories: Builder and Excellence in Health Research.

Tyrrell led the University of Alberta's medical school for 10 years, developed the antiviral therapy for hepatitis B now being used around the globe and he was the driving force behind the development of the Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology—a facility that has further advanced the U of A as a world centre of excellence in viral research. Tyrrell also holds the CIHR/GSK Chair in Virology in the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology at the U of A.

Student group emerges among the best investors

Five members of the student-run investment program, Prime, in the Alberta School of Business reached the final four of the America's Global Investment Research Challenge, held last month in Omaha, Nebraska, where they competed alongside students from Brigham Young University, the University of Wisconsin and the University of Southern California, who won the competition.

Prime manages a fund worth more than $1.2 million and is made up of bachelor of commerce students Dan Everall, Geoff Graae, Bryan Harris, Mike Larson and Mark Van Thournout. The team competed against universities from Canada, the United States and South America.

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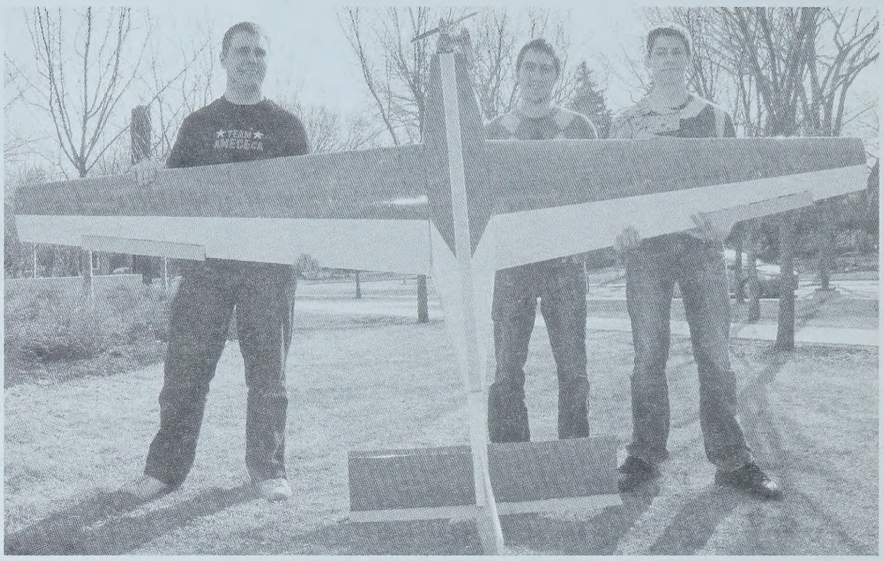

Supplied

Fourth-year mechanical engineering student Brandon Avery, third-year civil engineering student Stephen Rebus and second-year engineering physics student David Driedger present The Albatross.

The Albatross spreads its wings in international heavy-lift competition

Richard Cairney

A group of engineering students returned from an international heavy-lift aircraft design competition held in Marietta, Georgia, April 29 to May 1 with mixed results.

The Faculty of Engineering's Aero SAE Heavy Lift team designed a remote-controlled airplane with a wingspan of about three metres. Appropriately named The Albatross, the plane is the largest ever designed by the club, which entered the competition's high-payload category.

"Unfortunately, there was some balance issues with the airplane, which made it difficult to fly," says team leader Brandon Avery, a fourth-year mechanical engineering student from High level. "After a few nervous minutes of watching the plane fly, it crash-landed just off the runway."

The left wing and fuselage were both severely damaged, which meant the team had to miss some flight rounds in order to do repairs.

"After putting in some weight to balance the plane, we were able to get into the final flight round and The plane flew perfectly," said Avery. "Everyone in the stands cheered. We were all reminded of why we worked so hard on this project. Being able to see the airplane that you have worked on for the past eight months fly through the air and land smoothly on the runway was incredible."

The plane itself weighs 5.8 kilograms, and takes off with an 8.2 kg-payload. The plane is supposed to lift off on a short runway—getting airborne within about 61 metres. That means a quick sprint: the plane's take-off speed is 13 metres per second.

> "Being able to see the airplane that you have worked on for the past eight months fly through the air and land smoothly on the runway was incredible."
>
> Brandon Avery

"The size of engine we are allowed to use limits how much we can carry, so we designed the aircraft around the engine," said Avery.

Doing that sort of thing—designing an airplane—is something Avery and his teammates have a passion for. And groups like the Aero SAE team—funded by the Faculty of Engineering and corporate sponsors like Great Hobbies in Edmonton, give students the chance to apply what they have learned in the classroom to real-life situations.

"I joined it because I am interested in aircraft and I wanted to apply what I learned in school," Avery said. "I'm focusing my mechanical engineering schooling on aeronautics as much as I can."

In one of his fourth-year design courses, Avery worked with a team of students to design retractable landing gear for the plane, which might be incorporated into next year's design. Even if it isn't, Avery says the experience of being on the team is a terrific way to compliment classroom studies.

"This gives you a lot of hands-on skills in designing and there is also extra report writing that I get to practice. In the Aero group you apply what you've learned in the classroom to a real problem, which helps you to know it better. Once you have applied that knowledge you can use it again—it's easier because you've done it before.

"I found that the hands-on work, actually building the plane, makes you a better designer because you have an idea in your head of how someone is going to have to make this, so you can make adjustments in design to avoid problems in the manufacturing. It makes your job easier."

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Study finds helmet laws work

Liza Sunley

University of Alberta researchers have confirmed that helmet bylaws increase helmet wearing rates among adults.

In a study published in the *Canadian Journal of Public Health* April 19, U of A School of Public Health graduate student Mohammad Karkhaneh; Brian Rowe, professor in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and research director with the Department of Emergency Medicine; Don Voaklander, professor in the School of Public Health and director of the Alberta Centre for Injury Control & Research; Duncan Saunders, chair, Department of Public Health Sciences in the School of Public Health; and Brent Hagel, professor in the Departments of Pediatrics and Community Health Sciences at the University of Calgary, compared the number of people wearing helmets in the province, to those doing so in St. Albert. Alberta has legislation requiring the use of helmets while cycling for children under the age of 18, while St. Albert is the only jurisdiction in the province with a bylaw extending the requirement to cyclists of all ages.

In 2006, when St. Albert's bylaw was implemented, 74 per cent of adult cyclists wore helmets. In 2010, that number grew to 80 per cent. In comparison, only 55 per cent of adults in Alberta wore helmets.

"There is strong evidence to support the role of helmet legislation in improving the rates of cycling helmet use in many communities," says Karkhaneh. "Successful implementation of helmet laws has occurred in Australia and in other parts of Canada. We're pleased to see proof of this right here in Alberta."

One of the main challenges with discussing universal bicycle helmet legislation in Alberta is the prevalence of the myths that bicycle-helmet legislation is too difficult to enforce, and the belief that bicycle helmets do not reduce severe injuries, says Rowe.

"There is very strong evidence that the risk of head injuries related to bicycle crashes is directly related to the use of a Canadian Standards Association-approved cycling helmet," he says. "The proper use of a helmet reduces the risk of cycling injuries to the head, face and brain by up to 88 per cent."

Partial funding for the research was provided by Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on Express News at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until June 24

The Last Best West: Glimpses of the Prairie Provinces from the Golden Age of Postcards. This exhibition of postcards is from the settlement and urbanization of the Canadian Northwest. The Peel's Prairie Provinces postcard collection contains thousands of fascinating and informative images, including personalized views of first houses, farms and family groups, as well as important events, disasters and buildings. Admission is free. Exhibition catalogues are available for $25. Noon–4:30 p.m. Lower level, South Rutherford Library.

Until May 18

More Than Universal Design. This exhibition highlights the work of various faculties, including the Faculty of Extension, exploring, researching, teaching and training various aspects of Universa. Atrium (Main Floor) Enterprise Square. Gallery hours: 7 a.m.–11 p.m., Monday to Sunday

May 9 & 10

China and India/Global Power Shift/Opportunities for Canada and Alberta. This conference will examine the rapid economic growth of China and India with expert guest speakers from Alberta, Canada, India and China. Please see conference website for brochure and registration. www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/ipe/ipe_conference_2011.cfm.

May 10

2011 Physical Activity Forum: Motivating Physical Activity Behaviour. The presentation will provide insights to practitioners and professionals about major developments in the field of human motivation, as applied to physical activity behaviour. Panel discussion to follow. 8:30 a.m.–noon. Lister Centre.

May 10

Finding Funding and Community of Science Database Demo. The first step in any successful grant application is finding appropriate funding opportunities. The aim of this workshop is to provide some suggestions for and facilitate finding appropriate funding opportunities for research activities. 11–11:55 a.m. 2F1.02 University of Alberta Hospital (Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre). To register go to http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=4952.

Global Health & Human Rights: Working with the 20th Century Legacy with Solomon Benatar. In the 20th century the world was greatly transformed by spectacular advances in science and medicine along with a major growth in the economy, yet it is was also characterized by widening disparities in health, well-being and achievements of human rights. Such a world, shaped by powerful social and economic forces, has benefited a small proportion of the world's population maximally and the rest minimally, if at all. New ideas and action are required to achieve meaningful progress in health and human rights in the 21st century. 7:30 p.m. Convocation Hall (Old Arts Building) Arts and Convocation Hall.

May 11

The Elite Female Athlete: Putting the Evidence into Practice (part 2). Part two of a four-part series discussing applied information for those working with female athletes. This topic is "Injury." Dru Marshall, deputy provost, will moderate the discussion. U of A physician Connie Lebrun will give a talk entitled, "ACL injuries in female athletes: Risk and prevention." Pirkko Markula, professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, will give a talk entitled, "Women athletes' experiences of injury and injury care." Vicki Harber, professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, will talk about the "Healthy Panda" project. Noon–1:30 p.m. E120 Physical Education and Recreation Centre, Van Vliet.

May 12

David Peikoff Chair of Deaf Studies Research Lecture. Swiss sign-language expert Patricia Shores-Hermann will be on hand to give an overview of the sign language communities in Switzerland. 7–8:30 p.m. 2-115 Education North Education Centre.

May 13

"SEE the research at work" Seminar Series. Oil Sands Tailings Water Management: Treatment Approaches and their Applicability. Mohammed Gamal El-Din, professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, will talk about water management for the sustainable development of the Athabasca oilsands in Alberta. Noon–1:30 p.m. Room 5-04; Stollery Executive Development Centre, Alberta School of Business.

Campus Sustainability Tour. Join us for a virtual and walking tour featuring sustainable practices in our community at the U of A. The virtual tour starts at the Office of Sustainability, North Power Plant. This free walking tour run every two weeks during the spring and fall. Spaces for the tours are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Register for this tour by emailing: sustainability@ualberta.ca. 3–4:30 p.m. 470 General Services Building.

May 14

Educated Adventures – Tune & Cruise. Tune & Cruise is your opportunity to dust off that old bike, get out and become more comfortable riding. Bike mechanics will be on site to tune up and teach you about bicycle maintenance. After the maintenance workshop take a guided ride through the river valley with Karen Fox, professor of recreation and leisure studies. Learn about trail etiquette, stop at points of interest, and win prizes. Contact the bike library at ecos@su.ualberta.ca for information on bike loans. (This family friendly event is open to children on their own bikes who are eight years and up.) Register online through our website at www.ualberta.ca/alumni/educatedadventures. 2–4:30 p.m. Quad, U of A Campus. $5 per person (children up to 12 free).

May 17

Retirement Celebration. The Retirement Celebration recognizes all academic and support staff members who have retired or who will retire from the University of Alberta within the 2011 calendar year. 3–6 p.m. Stollery Executive Development Centre, Alberta School of Business.

May 18

The Elite Female Athlete: Putting the Evidence into Practice (part 3). Part three in a four part series discussing applied information for those working with female athletes. This topic is "Psychology." Dru Marshall, deputy provost, will moderate the discussion. Grad student Camilla Knight will give a talk entitled, "Parent support of the female athlete." Grad student Katherine Tamminen will give a talk entitled, "Stress and coping among female athletes." Nick Holt, professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, will give a talk entitled, "Female athletes' perceptions of conflict in sport." Noon–1:30 p.m. E120 Physical Education and Recreation Centre.

May 19

Department of Medicine Research Day. Join the Department of Medicine's Annual Research Day Oral presentations and poster sessions. 8 a.m.–5 p.m. U of A Hospital (Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre).

May 19

The Birth of a Clean Energy Superpower: Advancing Canada's Vision. C5MPT is the first centre of its kind in Canada, designed to support the sustainable development of natural resources Engineering professors Rick Chalaturnyk and Qingxia (Chad) Liu will discuss the work of the centre through research of carbon capture and storage, clean coal and mineral processing. 4:30–6:45 p.m., U of A Calgary Centre - 120, 333 5 Ave. SW, Calgary.

Cell Biology Recruit Candidate. Gregory Fairn, post-doctoral fellow with the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, will be on hand to give a talk entitled, "Membrane dynamics and organization in phagocytosis and cell polarity." 9:30–10:30 a.m. 628 Medical Sciences.

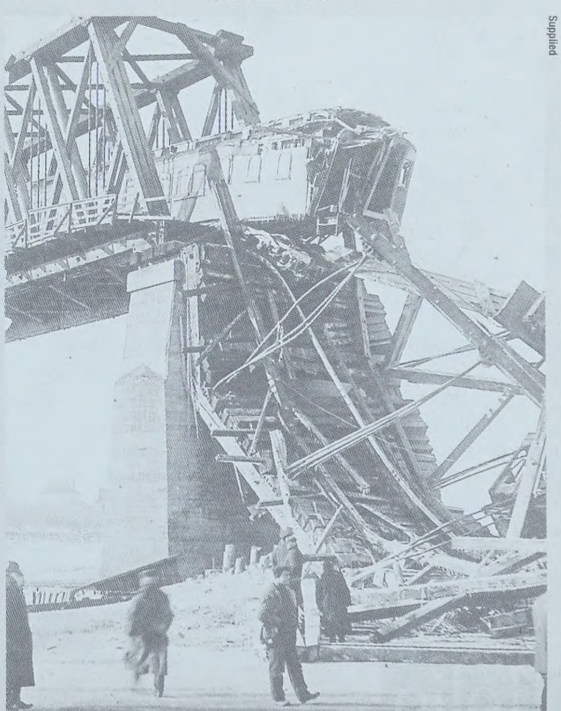
May 20 & 21

Material Culture, Craft and Community: Negotiating Objects Across Time and Place. This interdisciplinary conference will explore the varied expressions of craft—material, cultural, social—in past and present societies. Craft practice has a rich history and remains vibrant today, sustaining communities while negotiating cultures. The keynote speaker is Laurel Thatch, early America professor with Harvard University. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. TELUS Centre.

May 20

Communications and Technology Research Symposium 2011. This year our guest speaker is John Durham Peters, author of Speaking into the Air: A History of the Idea of Communication. This lecture on the convergence of new and ancient media aims to consider broadly the meaning of new communication practices for the human estate in our times. Noon–3:30 p.m. Gallery (main floor) Enterprise Square.

Close call



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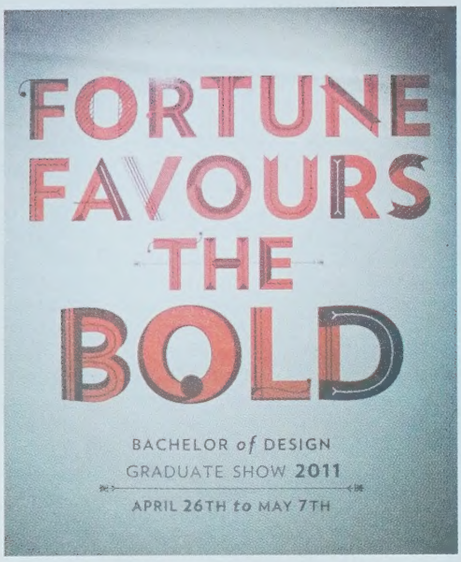
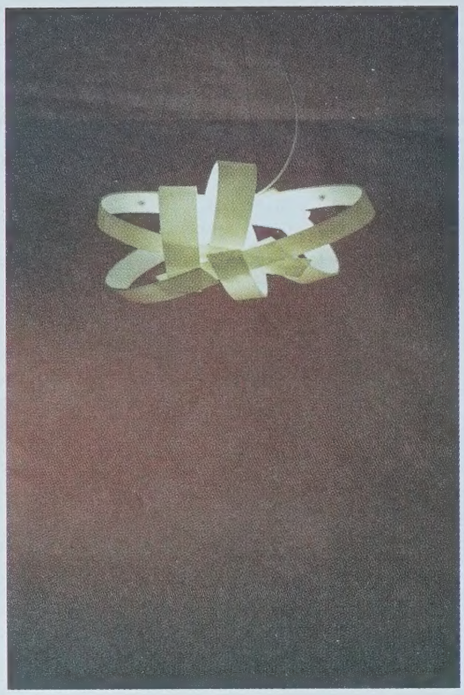
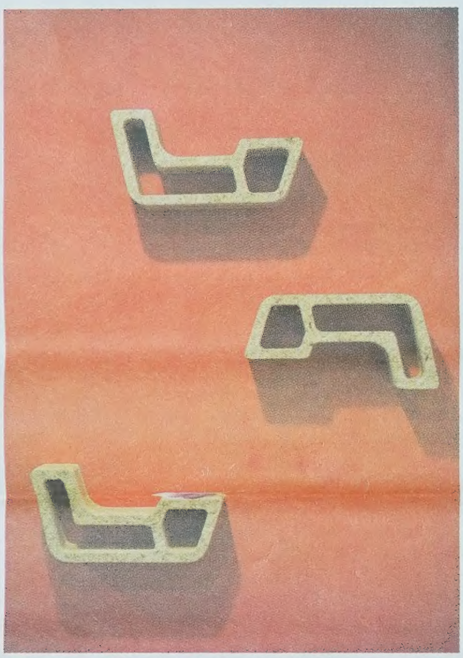
The Bruce Peel Special Collections Library is exhibiting "The Last Best West: Glimpses of the Prairie Provinces from the Golden Age of Postcards," until June 24.







Fortune Favours the **Bold**

Fortune Favours The Bold is the title of this year's Department of Art and Design's bachelor of design in visual communication design and industrial design graduating exhibition. The show features the work of 35 talented young artists and is presented in the Fine Arts Building Gallery from April 26–May 7. The gallery is open from 10 a.m.–5 p.m. from Tuesday to Friday and 2 p.m.–5 p.m. on Saturdays.

From Left to Right
Top row: Jordon Tomnuk, *Nietig* (chandelier) ♦ Lawrence Ly, *Sealed Fusion*

Middle row: Janette Tong, L – *Racks* (shelving) ♦ Alyssia Blenkin, *HI – Bird* (bird houses) ♦ Amanda Greenough, *International Week* (poster design)

Bottom row: Mariya Karpenko, *The Lovely Soaps* (packaging design) ♦ Lauren Sigvaldson, *Su Side Table*

the BackPage

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 2
Third time's a charm
Phyllis Clark reappointed VP (finance and administration) for a third term

Page 8
Party time
Augustana prepping for its bash of the century

Page 11
Press time
U of A Press leads the way with 13 Alberta Book Publishing nominations

Volume 48 Issue 18 | May 20, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Serving those injured in service to Canada

Jeff Morris and Jamie Hanlon

The University of Alberta has announced Canada's first research chair dedicated to the rehabilitation of injured soldiers and veterans.

The Canadian Military and Veterans' Chair in Clinical Rehabilitation will create a national research network dedicated solely to military rehabilitation while highlighting the real influence that university research chairs can have on national clinical practices, says Martin Ferguson-Pell, dean of the U of A's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine.

"We know the formula works. This new chair at the University of Alberta will improve clinical rehabilitation care for our soldiers and veterans," said Ferguson-Pell. "We will see the best minds at the University of Alberta—and at other institutions across this country—come together to do one thing: build academic capacity to advance knowledge and ensure that we can provide the best possible clinical care for our soldiers and veterans."

> "We will see the best minds at the University of Alberta . . . come together to do one thing: build academic capacity to advance knowledge and ensure that we can provide the best possible clinical care for our soldiers and veterans."
>
> Martin Ferguson-Pell

Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Donald Ethell was in attendance May 9 for the announcement at Edmonton's James Curry Jefferson Armory. The veteran peacekeeper was among the six government, university and military officials to emphasize the importance of the chair.

Continued on page 2

The art of flight

Steven Hajpal

Sunlight catches the wings of a crow soaring in front of the mural on the north side of the Education Centre.

$20 million gift supports an APPLE a day in Alberta's schools

Donna Richardson

The University of Alberta is expanding a program aimed at reversing poor health trends among Alberta children, thanks to a $20-million gift from a U of A alumnus May 10.

U of A alumnus Allan Markin made an additional $15-million donation to the Alberta Project Promoting active Living & healthy Eating in Schools, or APPLE Schools, following his initial $5-million gift in 2008.

Markin decided to fortify APPLE Schools funding after researchers began reporting improved nutritional habits, increased physical activity levels and a reduction in obesity levels among children in participating schools.

"I just want to thank the University of Alberta for making this program happen," says Markin, an Alberta businessman and philanthropist. "The APPLE Schools team knows how to create healthy communities. Now we know for sure that if we make it fun and easy for kids they can develop healthy habits for life."

By September 2011, APPLE Schools will run in 41 Alberta schools. This includes urban, rural, and First Nations, Metis and Inuit schools.

Since 2008, APPLE Schools has been operating in 10 Edmonton-area schools to create environments that support lifelong health and learning. Under the direction of Paul Veugelers, a professor in the School of Public Health whose research on health-promoting school programs has received international attention, the program has been instrumental in creating healthy school communities in Alberta.

Research conducted by Veugelers in 2008 showed that only 27 per cent of Grade 5 students in Alberta met the recommendations for vegetable and fruit intake, whereas 67 per cent ate junk food twice a week. The study also revealed that 29 per cent of the students were overweight or obese.

"The aim of APPLE Schools is to develop healthy lifestyles and, ultimately, reduce chronic disease," says Veugelers, who holds a Canada Research Chair in Population Health. He explains that overweight children are at greater risk for Type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer and other chronic diseases.

"Our research has also shown that children who eat healthy foods and who are physically active are more likely to perform better in school," adds Veugelers, highlighting the broader impact of the program.

"We are very grateful to Allan Markin for his vision and generosity," says President Indira Samarasekera. "A lot can be accomplished when certain conditions are in place—talented researchers doing credible, action-based studies, professional health facilitators with the skills to create healthier environments, enthusiastic schools eager to change their students' lives for the better—and a donor willing to provide the major resources needed to make it all happen."

Each participating school has a dedicated health facilitator who collaborates with parents, students, school staff and the surrounding community. Together, they create environments that support lifelong health and learning. This may include fun activities such as planting classroom gardens or scheduling family fun nights in the school gymnasium.

Annually, researchers measure change in knowledge, attitude and behaviour of the children. Results are shared with the schools, so that the information may be used to modify action plans in order to improve the health of children."

"In the APPLE Schools environment the healthy choice is the easy choice for children," said Veugelers.

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Allan Markin and President Indira Samarasekera take saying "cheese" to the next level during a light moment at the APPLE Schools gift announcement in Fort McMurray May 10.

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Clark named as VP (finance and administration) for a third term

Michael Brown

The Board of Governors has reappointed Phyllis Clark as the University of Alberta's vice-president (finance and administration), effective July 1, 2012 for a third five-year term.

"Phyllis has led the U of A to become recognized for its excellent financial reporting and transparent and responsible business practices," said President Indira Samarasekera. "In almost a decade with the U of A, she has led us in the reorganization of human resources, the introduction of Smartforms and more recently, the consolidation of our email servers to Google's Gmail system."

Clark joined the U of A in 2001, coming from Ontario where she served as vice-president of finance and human resources at York University, and before that as Ontario's chief economist and deputy minister of the provincial treasury. She assumed responsibility for a finance and administration portfolio that now oversees financial services, human resources, safe disclosure and human rights, policy, strategic analysis, supply management, the Office of the Vice-Provost (Information Technology)—the administrative information systems (the provost oversees academic IT) and risk-management services.

Fortunate to have been always able to work with budgets that have "supported the things that we need them to support in the academy, while still keeping the university relatively strong," Clark says she has been able to focus much of her attention on ushering in the IT revolution that has taken hold during her tenure at the U of A.

"Information technology is transforming the way we do our business," said Clark," but we need to better exploit the IT systems that we have.

"We have an administrative efficiency and effectiveness review coming up and I would like to come out of it as close to paperless as we can."

She adds, "We don't have to need an increasing share of the precious resources we have to keep the institution running. We just want to make sure we can do things better without costing us more going forward."

Clark says she also wants to focus her next term on simplifying the ever-growing list of industry and government regulations that unnecessarily eat at university funds.

Phyllis Clark

"We are continually being hit with regulation changes and a tightening up of rules, which is getting frustrating," said Clark. "It means more forms and more rules, which need to filter through the university. All of that takes time and energy. I would like to change that."

And while many aspects of Clark's role have evolved over the decade she has helped lead the university, Clark says the job is still about people.

"I have to run hard to keep up to the people who work for me, and that's great," said Clark. "The executive team has really coalesced into a dynamic group of people that has worked well together over the years. It helps that Indira is very forward thinking."

Clark says the university administrators are also blessed to have good relationships with both the academic and the non-academic staff associations, as well as with a provincial government that has always been extremely generous in its support of post-secondary education in Alberta.

"We have such a great situation with those relationships and we have to make sure we can continue to build on it," she said. "It is just the best university in Canada to work for, in my opinion."

Historical support from donors helps fuel a banner year

Michael Brown

On May 9, University of Alberta staff were joined at the Westin Hotel by various university stakeholders to receive an update on the university's accomplishments and challenges from the past year, and to hear an outline of the year ahead.

The evening, which included the sharing of the U of A's *Serving Through Knowledge: 2011 Report to the Community*, saw President Indira Samarasekera speak to a long list of accomplishments, starting with the continuation of the university's first-rate teaching and research environment while the university continued to put an emphasis upon face-to-face contact between students and professors.

"I am pleased to report that more than 60 per cent of our undergraduate classes now have 25 students or less, and more than 80 per cent of our undergraduate classes have 50 students or less," said Samarasekera. "We continue to receive accolades for the high quality of undergraduate teachers on campus." The president also discussed how U of A students have access to some of the world's leading thinkers in fields as diverse as carbon sequestration to Islamic studies to print making.

> "The fact that donors, governments and other partners are willing to invest so much in the U of A is humbling—and we are very grateful."
>
> Indira Samarasekera

Some of the highlights of the past year also included two 3M National Teaching Fellowships, given to faculty members Billy Strean and Scott North. This brings the number of 3M awards at the U of A to 34, 13 more than any other university.

In the spring of 2010, the U of A boosted its faculty and research capacity when it succeeded in securing four new Canada Excellence Research Chairs—the greatest number of any campus in the country. In this new federal funding program, each of the U of A's four CERCs will receive $10 million over seven years to build on the U of A's already established excellence in oilsands, Arctic, virology and diamond extraction research.

The U of A has expanded the Helmholtz Alberta Initiative, a partnership formed in 2009 with the Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres, and supported by a $25-million investment from the Alberta government. This partnership initially focused on research related to the sustainable development of the oilsands and other heavy hydrocarbon resources but has moved into areas such as infectious disease and neuroscience.

In addition to strong government investment, Samarasekera singled out the historical support from donors in the past year, which included a $28 million gift from the Li Ka Shing (Canada) Foundation and $52.5 million in new related funding from the Government of Alberta.—the largest cash donation in the university's history— $to establish the Li Ka Shing Institute for Virology. The university also received a 5,000-hectare ranch in southeast Alberta from Edwin and Ruth Mattheis—the largest land gift ever given to a Canadian university, as well as the home of Sandy and Cécile Mactaggart, which capped a philanthropic legacy now amounting to an unprecedented $100 million in donations and gifts in kind.

"The fact that donors, governments and other partners are willing to invest so much in the U of A is humbling—and we are very grateful," said Samarasekera. "With your support, the U of A's impact continues to grow within this city, across the province and country, and increasingly throughout the world."

To view this year's report to the community, go to www.report.ualberta.ca.

The Canadian Military and Veterans' Chair in Clinical Rehabilitation

Continued from page 1

"This is a huge leap forward," says Ethell. "I spent 40 years in the military and there was no thought of this before."

Once named, the chair will work closely with other researchers and clinicians from across Canada and with American researchers in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

"We're engaged in an effort to recruit the best person, someone who will be an international leader in his or her field, someone who has deep understanding of the Canadian Forces' culture and someone who can move easily and with confidence in the academic and military worlds," said Ferguson-Pell.

"The Canadian Forces welcomes this important initiative by the University of Alberta and looks forward to working with partners across the province to better the rehabilitation of our injured soldiers and veterans," said Peter MacKay, minister of national defence. "Men and women in uniform who stand on guard for our great nation deserve the very best care, and I'm hopeful that initiatives such as this will provide our ill and injured personnel access to cutting-edge care and support."

The provincial government is also lauding the establishment of this critical research chair, whose work will impact Canadian soldiers and veterans within the province and throughout the country. Doug Horner, MLA for Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert, is supportive of the announcement honouring those who serve. "They are prepared to put themselves in harm's way; we should be prepared to do all we can when they need us," he said. "This is an investment in that debt we owe."

University of Alberta Chancellor Linda Hughes drew attention at the announcement to the long-standing relationship between the University of Alberta and the Canadian Forces.

"Almost precisely a full century ago, Gordon Stanley Fife, one of the university's first professors, headed overseas to fight for his country," said Hughes. "The ties between the University of Alberta and the Canadian military are strong, and they are about to become even stronger through the Canadian Military and Veterans' Chair in Clinical Rehabilitation."

Tonya Corry, a member of 11 Field Ambulance in Victoria and recent graduate of the University of Alberta's occupational therapy program, represents one of the most current ties.

"The basis of sound public policy and good clinical care rests on a foundation of solid, informed research," says Corry. "This will become a truly national research network, with the U of A at its core."

"[The U of A] is a national and international leader in so many disciplinary areas," says Ferguson-Pell. "Today we celebrate another addition to that highly regarded and well-earned reputation for leadership."

Stephen

Keith Ross, a physical therapy alumnus from the U of A and a member of the Canadian Forces, walks a soldier through a rehabilitation exercise.

From iron lungs to Wiis: Occupational therapy turns 50

Michael Davies-Venn

A large population of veterans in Western Canada and an outbreak of polio in the 1950s were the precursors to the provincial government asking the University of Alberta to establish an occupational therapy program.

Leonard Allbon, former occupational therapy professor and the program's first chair, came to Edmonton from the United Kingdom to start the Department of Occupational Therapy in 1960.

"When I arrived, there were wards full of people, at the University of Alberta Hospital and the Royal Alexandra Hospital, with iron lungs; they were patients with polio who needed assistance in breathing who used these metal containers," said Allbon, who will join alumni, staff and students in celebrating the department's 50-year anniversary at Lister Centre May 14.

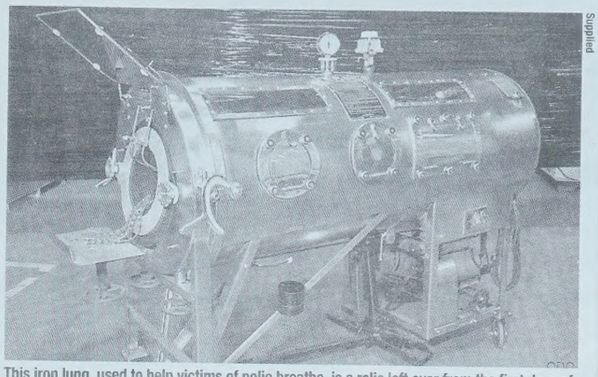
Eventually the iron lungs disappeared, but Allbon and his nine-member staff continued preparing students to learn and practice in communities in Edmonton, Calgary and Saskatchewan. Those first occupational-therapy students were taught how to use weaving and sewing to help rehabilitate patients.

Today, the program is still taking innovative leads as it prepares students to heal a diverse client base, which still includes victims of polio and war veterans.

"People who had polio 50 years ago now have post-polio syndrome and have aged with the disability," said Lili Liu, chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy, which exists within the U of A's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine. "We've also come full circle now, in that the needs of military veterans are gaining attention again, particularly from a mental and physical health perspective."

In order to better serve the needs of those injured in military service, the U of A announced the first research chair in Canada dedicated to the rehabilitation of injured soldiers and veterans May 10.

In decades past, Liu says occupational therapy has served people suffering from stroke, spinal-cord injuries, mental health and chronic conditions with seniors. However, she says the discipline is evolving to include working on ways to remove stigmatization associated with disability.



Supplied

This iron lung, used to help victims of polio breathe, is a relic left over from the first days of the U of A's Department of Occupational Therapy 50 years ago.

"Many of us are trying now to communicate that a person is only as disabled as their environment makes them. If we're going to be successful health-care professionals, we need to speak to the dignity of a person," she said. "Why is it that some products, such as walking cane or wheelchair, are designed to give an institutional look? It just screams out the message, 'I'm sick,' or 'I'm fat' or 'I'm blind.' It stigmatizes."

By also using newer technologies, such as the Nintendo Wii, Liu says the department is ahead of others. "The Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital was the first hospital in North America to use the Nintendo Wii for stroke patients. Now it's quite common."

Also popular now is the program itself, which Allbon says had only a single student at one point. Today, more than 100 students graduate from the program each year.

"It was obviously a successful program, so I had no doubt that it would continue. But it's a bit amazing to me now that it got as big as it did," Allbon said.

Using sport to challenge attitudes helps land Trudeau Scholarship

Sandra Pysklywyc

Paralympian, world champion and world MVP in wheelchair basketball are just a few of Danielle Peers' accomplishments.

Now the graduate student in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation at the University of Alberta can add Trudeau Scholar to her already impressive resumé.

Danielle Peers

Known to many as "Doc" Peers, she has been awarded the prestigious $180,000 Trudeau scholarship and joins a community of creative, accomplished thinkers and doers tackling issues of fundamental importance to Canadians.

Peers' research includes assessing how the perceptions held by Canadians influence the rights and opportunities of disabled citizens, and how the images of disabled athletes like Rick Hansen or Terry Fox influence these perceptions and rights. She says, "I am truly excited about being part of this collaborative, community-oriented program."

For Peers, being a Trudeau Scholar means spending much more time and energy on doing research and disseminating it, rather than finding the funds for it.

"The funding [from the Trudeau scholarship] allows me to spend time in, and stay connected to, the vibrant disability and disability-sport communities in which I work as an activist, coach and volunteer, which in turn fuels my academic interest and knowledge in the area," she said.

Interaction in non-academic situations, including public policy networks and public forums, is a key component of the Trudeau scholarship program. Peers notes the various Trudeau conferences and public interaction programs are some of the things that make this scholarship stand out.

"These [conferences and programs] help scholars engage collaboratively in exciting new multi-disciplinary ways, looking at how they produce knowledge, while helping the scholars' research reach other scholars, students and, importantly, policy makers, practitioners and members of the public, who can help turn these new ideas into new ways of thinking and acting," said Peers.

She is the seventh U of A graduate student to be chosen for the Trudeau scholarship since the scholarship's inception in 2002. But she is no stranger to awards: Peers is also a Vanier Canada Graduate Scholar and a U of A alumni Horizon Award Winner. Peers holds a bachelor of arts degree in sociology and a master's in physical education and recreation. She is currently working on her PhD in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation at the U of A as a member of the Body, Movement and Culture Research Group.

Zoe Todd, a social anthropologist who received a bachelor of science (2006) and a master's of science (2010) at the U of A, received a Trudeau Scholarship to examine the impact of mining development in the Northwest Territories on women's subsistence fishing. Todd is doing her research at the University of Aberdeen, U.K.

Trudeau scholarships are among the most coveted awards of their kind in Canada and are granted to social sciences and humanities students who are examining matters of present-day concern to Canadians in key areas such as the environment, international affairs, responsible citizenship and human rights and dignity. Many Trudeau Scholars go on to become leading national and international figures.

In addition to the generous financial prize, Trudeau Scholars benefit from the expertise and knowledge of Trudeau Fellows and Mentors, highly accomplished individuals in the Trudeau community who are leaders in both academic and non-academic settings.

Researchers closer to understanding the immunity of bacteria

Quinn Phillips

Researchers at the University of Alberta have taken an important step in understanding the immune system of bacteria, a finding that could have implications for medical care and both the pharmaceutical and dairy industries.

In research published in the journal *Nature Structural & Molecular Biology*, Andrew MacMillan and co-workers in his lab have described the first step of the immune response of bacterial cells. Scientists had previously found that a bacterial virus, called a bacteriophage, attacks a bacterial cell by injecting its DNA into the cell. MacMillan's lab discovered the mechanism by which bacterial RNA is cut into pieces by a specific protein; these pieces then target the invading virus' DNA.

"We are starting at the beginning because we want to understand how this works and how we can use this to basically control bacterial growth," said Matt Schellenberg, a post-doctoral fellow in the MacMillan lab in the Department of Biochemistry in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. This system could be beneficial for bacteria to fight off an invasion of viruses. Alternatively, medical professionals could use knowledge of this system to help fight a human bacterial infection.

The mystery behind the immune system of bacteria has implications in everything from cheese and yogurt production to the synthesis of complex pharmaceuticals.

According to MacMillan they used a technique called X-ray crystallography to produce high-resolution pictures of a key step in the bacteria's immune response—the production of the targeting RNAs.

"Bacteria have evolved this system to protect themselves against infection," said MacMillan.

As they unfold the mystery of the bacteria cell's immune system, which is named the CRISPR system, there are implications for a variety of industrial practices involving fermentation. Everything from cheese and yogurt production to the synthesis of complex pharmaceuticals relies on large-scale bacterial fermentation, which is at risk of bacteriophage infection with expensive consequences—losing the batch. The lab's ongoing work could help these industries boost the immune systems of the "good" bacteria.

The next step for the lab is to uncover the mechanism by which virus DNA is destroyed.

"We want to use what we've learned so far to examine the actual targeting mechanism," says MacMillan. "This is a complex pathway, and there's a lot of exciting biology to still uncover."

Be seen

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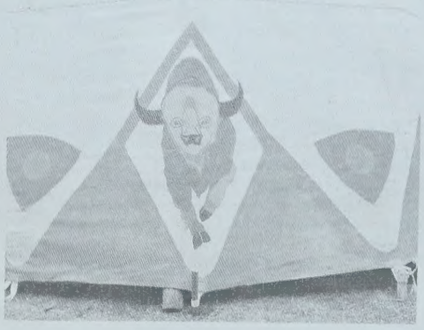
Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Ray Vivian, whose name was drawn as part of folio's May "Are You a Winner?" contest. Vivian correctly identified the photo in question as being located on the west side of St. Joseph's College. For his correct answer, Vivian has won a emblazoned water bottle, as well as a U of A bookmark.

Up for grabs this week is a trusty U of A-issue stainless-steel coffee mug, as well as a U of A bookmark. To win, simply email what building the photo is of and email your answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, May 27, and you will be entered into the draw.



Michael Davies-Venn

The Faculty of Native Studies held its annual Tipi raising in front of Pembina Hall May 10.

The president's response to the report to the Premier's Council for Economic Strategy

Indira Samarasekera
President and Vice-Chancellor

the open door

On Thursday, May 5, the Premier's Council for Economic Strategy released its final report: *Shaping Alberta's Future*. The recommendations and findings of the council are an important, indeed crucial, step to building the framework that will secure a prosperous future for Alberta.

The council was challenged by the premier to examine what Albertans must do to sustain prosperity through to 2040 and beyond, to ensure that future generations of Albertans enjoy even greater opportunity than the province currently enjoys, and to make the Alberta of the future a great place to live, work and raise one's family.

The council's 116-page report outlines five themes and five big ideas, or flagship initiatives. By moving forward with these themes and ideas, Alberta will be powerfully and effectively positioned as a global leader. This will come to be through the creation of an environment that will attract the world's finest talent, prompt the development of international partnerships and expand and promote the province's global investment opportunities.

The University of Alberta was pleased last summer to make a submission to the council, during the council's fact-finding and information gathering work. I am pleased that our recommendations are reflected in the themes and initiatives outlined in the report the council presented.

Specifically, for example, "Theme 2" of Shaping Alberta's Future points to the need to "reduce the vulnerability that comes with heavy reliance on energy sales to only one market, the United States, by applying knowledge in new ways to get greater value, and delivering new products and services into new markets." It is the very work of the University of Alberta, and the province's other universities, to develop the talent and drive the innovation and discovery required to facilitate the transfer of knowledge that will broaden Alberta's economic base as identified in the council's report.

The U of A will also be an instrumental partner in helping Alberta achieve the objective of the council's third theme—preparing the province to prosper in a global economy. The institutions of Campus Alberta will equip Albertans to drive economic, social and cultural growth by becoming resilient lifelong learners who are eager to achieve and perform in an increasingly interconnected world. Simply put, Alberta's prosperity requires top talent able to compete with the best the world has to offer. It is Alberta's universities that are critical partners in developing and attracting these innovative leaders and visionaries.

The council's report acknowledges the important role that the province's post-secondary sector must play in ensuring Alberta's continued success and prosperity. The pace and scope of change today make preparing for the future identified in the council's report a daunting challenge.

The U of A is up to that challenge and eager to be a key partner in supporting the province as it drives toward a prosperous future.

Provost takes grass-roots approach to connecting the U of A globally

Michael Davies-Venn

> "The hardest to quantify, but one of the critical roles of SACIE, is individual people talking to me about their experiences, about what works and what does not. SACIE is the voices of the many, of each faculty having their voices at the table."
>
> Carl Amrhein

Universities work best when major initiatives come from the ground up, says University of Alberta provost Carl Amrhein. To help translate that idea into action and bring the campus community together for discussions on connecting the university globally, Amrhein has established the Standing Advisory Council on International Engagement.

"The hardest to quantify, but one of the critical roles of SACIE, is individual people talking to me about their experiences, about what works and what does not," Amrhein said on the group's work. "SACIE is the voices of the many, of each faculty having their voices at the table.

"It is the faculty, staff and students that define why we're in existence, so it's always best if we do what works best for them. The university is the sum total of what the faculty, staff and students do. The rest of us are in the role of creating an enabling environment," he said.

Included among the group's initiatives aimed at developing an international strategy are developing cooperation with other countries and forming global partnerships, creating more opportunities for U of A students to study abroad and targeting international student recruitment.

So far, Amrhein says the university is making good inroads into improving student mobility, thanks to initiatives aimed at identifying a clear central supporting mechanism, alleviating some of the financial burden of studying abroad and aligning programs with partner institutions.

As part of its internationalization strategy, Amrhein says the U of A is working closely with Mexico, United States, Germany, China, India and, more recently, Brazil, the addition of which represents how a grass-root approach to internationalization works.

"It was input from SACIE that in part convinced us to create Brazil as a priority country," said Amrhein. "Brazil has very strong ties to Canada and a sophisticated post-secondary system, and we have a number of professors who'd like to work with people there. I also had visits from some influential members of the community doing business in Brazil."

Central to the university's efforts at connecting with the world is U of A International, which Amrhein describes as the university's "Foreign Service." He says Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (International) Britta Baron, who heads the unit, has built UAI on the level of a foreign ministry.

"Under her guidance, we have greatly increased the number of students coming to U of A. She has energized relationships with a number of the deans," he said. "She and her team, including Cen Huang, acting director and assistant vice-president (international), played an important role in getting us into China."

A recent group, called Consortium of the Universities of Alberta, Laval, Dalhousie and Ottawa (CALDO), co-founded by Baron to unite efforts to recruit top international students to Canada, is also an important part of the university's international strategy.

"The consortium pools resources for master's and PhD students who come with sponsorship from their governments, corporations or foundations in their home country," Baron said. "Our experience was that often these sponsoring organizations do not want to deal with individual universities."

Baron says CALDO was able to bring more than 70 research interns from China and India to work with researchers at the U of A. Going the other way, UAI established a Summer Language Scholarship program that enabled 50 U of A students to go abroad to study another language.

"If we had more money, I'd be inclined to make an international experience mandatory," said Amrhein. "But until we have resources, it's disingenuous to make something mandatory that requires a large expense on the part of students without any financial support. I hope to encourage students to imagine going abroad for some portion of their program, even if it is just a summer workshop somewhere."

The provost adds that the U of A has more international graduate students than other universities and is ahead on large research undertakings globally. He says he believes ongoing efforts at internationalization will ultimately help make the world a better place.

"It's a belief in the global-village concept, that the world is a set of tightly coupled political jurisdictions but that humanity is in fact humanity, and the world is safer the more we get to know each other," he said.

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Arts & Letters Daily
From The Chronicle of Higher Education

Researchers find potential MS therapy could kill brain cells

Raquel Maurier

Researchers with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta have discovered that some "protective" T-cells can kill neurons. This finding is significant because a specific type of T-cell therapy is being touted in the medical community as a potential treatment for multiple sclerosis and other autoimmune conditions.

Fabrizio Giuliani and his post-doctoral fellow, Yohannes Haile, both from the Division of Neurology, collaborated on this research, which was recently published in the Journal of Leukocyte Biology, a peer-reviewed medical journal.

"Using T-cells has been seen as a potential treatment for autoimmune diseases," says Giuliani. "But these cells are supposed to be regulatory; when activated, they can kill. In our hands, at least, they were able to kill neurons. So this is very important. In MS literature, they were starting to talk about using the infusion of these cells as treatment. But this area needs to be studied more before these cells are used as a therapy for MS patients."

The finding was serendipitous, says Giuliani. "We were using some of the cells that we have described here as a control in our project. Then the T-cells did something interesting, something we weren't expecting. In fact, we were expecting the exact opposite response with these cells.

> "Using T-cells has been seen as a potential treatment for autoimmune diseases. But these cells are supposed to be regulatory; when activated, they can kill. In our hands, at least, they were able to kill neurons."
>
> Fabrizio Giuliani

"We were looking at how a specific type of T-cell could prevent neuronal death, and then we found out they were doing the killing. These are the best findings—when you are expecting something different and then you observe an amazing phenomenon."

The primary role of T-cells is to attack foreign viruses or bacteria and to regulate or maintain immune system tolerance. However, when T-cell tolerance is disrupted, it can cause autoimmune diseases.

Researchers had thought if they could carefully collect regulatory T-cells and inject them into patients with autoimmune diseases, these T-cells could keep autoimmune diseases under control. For example, work with lab models that had multiple sclerosis and were treated with T-cells was promising. However, recent studies of human cells have shown humans have different subpopulations of T-cells, of which some do not have a regulatory function.

Giuliani and Haile worked with different subpopulations of T-cells and discovered some were toxic to neurons. Giuliani and his colleague are the first medical researchers to demonstrate that activating a specific type of T-cell can kill brain cells. They want to continue their work in this area to determine what causes some T-cells to behave this way.

"We want to take the research further. We want to continue this story in an attempt to try and solve the mystery."

Their research was funded by the MS Society of Canada, the University of Alberta Hospital Foundation and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

Pointing the finger

Supplied

Studio Theatre's production of the "The Cripple of Inishmaan" by Martin McDonagh is playing at the Timms Centre for the Arts until May 28.

Interdisciplinary 'Smart Condo' team shares collaborative teaching award

Jeff Morris

Seven University of Alberta faculty members have come together to solve real-world problems, and they're winning awards while they're at it.

The University Teaching Awards Committee has awarded this year's Collaborative Teaching Unit Award to the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine's Lili Liu, chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy, and her "Smart Condo" project team: the Department of Industrial Design's Robert Lederer and Greig Rasmussen; the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences' Cheryl Sadowski and Lisa Guirguis, and the Department of Computing Science's Eleni Stroulia and Ioanis Nikolaidis.

The Collaborative Teaching Unit Award celebrates excellence in teaching among groups of instructors working together to create an outstanding learning environment.

Liu's collaboration began in the 1990s when a colleague approached her looking to give his industrial-design students an opportunity to work within the health-care sector. The instructors asked their students to start working together to design products for an aging population.

"Occupational therapists have a very creative approach to problem solving," says Liu. "But the opportunity to collaborate with industrial design meant we could get experts in the design field to make prototypes and design for the market."

Over 10 years, occupational therapy and physiotherapy students worked closely with industrial-design students to come up with more than 100 marketable solutions to the problems being faced by older adult populations. Sticking to the collaborative formula, Liu's team moved its focus beyond product design and into the broad scope of environmental design.

From there, the departments of computing science and pharmacy joined the mix and the Smart Condo project was born. For three consecutive years, students have collaborated to design a simulated living environment located in the U of A's Edmonton Clinic Health Academy.

The course revolves around interdisciplinary teamwork among students, and helps clearly define each student's individual disciplinary role.

"It fosters and strengthens their disciplinary identities," says Liu. "The students gain a clear understanding of the overlaps or boundaries of each discipline."

The Smart Condo is also developing a community partnership with Edmonton's Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital, enabling the students to work closely with practicing caretakers.

"The students get to see that the research they are doing is having a direct impact on the care that they will be providing," says Liu. "We incorporate our research with immediate and best practice.

"The students do things collaboratively, meeting each individual course requirement, but the final project and the learning experience extends well beyond the interdisciplinary group work," she says.

> "[Interdisciplinary teamwork] fosters and strengthens their disciplinary identities. The students gain a clear understanding of the overlaps or boundaries of each discipline."
>
> Lili Liu

Liu says there's enormous interdisciplinary potential for the Smart Condo project. The team is looking forward to getting back to collaborating when the Edmonton Health Clinic Academy opens its doors in the coming months.

"We want to build a larger research program and strengthen the interdisciplinary education opportunities.

"The Smart Condo project can only grow from here."

Study shows children with FASD have less deep-gray brain matter

Raquel Maurier

Children and youth who have fetal alcohol spectrum disorders have less deep-gray matter in their brains compared to children who don't have the condition, according to a collaborative study by a multidisciplinary team of researchers at the University of Alberta. This difference affects the way messages are relayed in the brain.

Deep-gray matter acts as the brain's "relay stations" by sending and receiving many messages between different regions in the brain. Therefore a reduction in this gray matter would result in difficulties sending messages back and forth related to memory, emotions, cognition and motor function, says Christian Beaulieu, an associate professor of biomedical engineering in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and an AIHS (Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions) scientist.

Those with FASD can have a host of language, learning, physical, memory and behavioural problems caused by exposure to alcohol before they are born.

"The key point of the research was to determine what brain regions are different in children and adolescents diagnosed with FASD and whether this could explain their motor, cognitive and behavioural difficulties," said Beaulieu. "Our previous studies showed that the brain white-matter wiring was affected in FASD. And now we show that the deep-gray matter relay stations that integrate and convey information to the cortex are also different in FASD."

The research, which has been published in Early View, was conducted by Beaulieu, the senior author, in collaboration with Catherine Lebel from the Department of Biomedical Engineering, Alexa Nardelli from the School of Public Health, Carmen Rasmussen with the Department of Pediatrics, and Gail Andrew of the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital FASD Clinic.

The study looked at 28 children or youth with FASD who ranged in age from six to 17, and 56 similarly aged children who don't have the condition. Researchers took 3-D MRI images of the children's brains and analyzed all six deep-gray-matter structures. They noted the children and youth who had FASD had reductions in all of the deep-gray matter in their brains.

"Most studies collapse all the ages, but we show that the volume reductions are across the full age range of six to 17 years," noted Beaulieu.

The research was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Networks of Centres of Excellence - Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network, Alberta Innovates - Health Solutions, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Alberta Science and Research Authority, Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research and the University Hospital Foundation.

> "Our previous studies showed that the brain white-matter wiring was affected in FASD. And now we show that the deep-gray matter relay stations that integrate and convey information to the cortex are also different in FASD."
>
> Christian Beaulieu

Dressing for the great outdoors

Bev Betkowski

Until Shauna Paisley Cooper was paralyzed by a mountain-biking accident three years ago, the mother of two was an avid athlete, who ran triathlons, played basketball and camped with her family.

Now in a wheelchair, Cooper says she tries to spend as much time as she can outside with her twin daughters, teaching them to ride their bikes, play soccer and enjoy nature. But with Alberta's ever-changing and often bitter weather, it isn't always easy.

Dressing for the outdoors can be complicated, she says. "Jackets don't fit. I cut them in the back so they fit around my hips. The jacket can't be too bulky, or wheeling and driving are hard," says Cooper. "It's hard to find good technical and outdoor apparel for wheelchair users."

> "There are a lot of people with mobility impairment who do want to go outside and participate in activities designed for them."
>
> Shauna Force

Enter University of Alberta professor Megan Strickfaden and two of her material culture design students, Vanessa Zembal and Shauna Force. Bundled with several classmates against a sharp wind and some wet snow, they accompanied Paisley Cooper on a three-hour trail ride into the gullies of Emily Murphy Park, to get a firsthand look at the kind of clothing needed for such an outdoor adventure.

"This was more than a trail ride," said Strickfaden, who teaches in the Department of Human Ecology. "The goal of the class, Material Culture in Practice, is to conduct user-centred research into issues around design—in this case, functional clothing. Because it is such a different situation in this case, the students needed to dig into what it is like to live with a disability."

The trail ride, using special wheeled equipment resembling rickshaws, was arranged with two clients including Paisley Cooper, through the Canadian Paraplegic Association.

She was eager to take part in the expedition, not only for the fun of it, but also for the knowledge that could come from it. Having had her own career in clothing retail management, Paisley Cooper was naturally interested in a project that could potentially improve design and fit for people with disabilities.

As the journey got underway in the river valley, Zembal and Force quickly got a new understanding of the challenges facing people like Paisley Cooper when they take on the great outdoors in extreme temperatures.

"Their circulation is poor, so they get cold all the time. Accommodating for that thermal loss and heat issues is really important, especially when designing for an outdoor winter activity," Zembal noted. The researchers also noticed that blankets used as lap robes during the trail ride quickly became sodden, and clothing bunched inconveniently around lifts, chairs and catheters.

Besides the physical changes needed to the outdoor clothing, psychological "comfort" factors need to be considered as well when designing adaptive clothing.

"A lot of it is designed for the function of the clothing and the wearer, rather than accommodating for a social factor," said Zembal, who plans to study clothing marketing. For instance, colour choices and blending in with other people by wearing common items like jeans, were two simple but meaningful findings.

Based on the field notes, video and photos taken during the outing, Zembal and Force drew up some recommendations for better designs of outdoor clothing. They hope their work will create a new school of thought for designers in a field that right now, offers what Zembal calls "stagnant" clothing choices.

"It was rewarding to discover that there is a gap to fill," said Force, who hopes for a career in costume construction, and has a T-shirt business already in the works. "There are a lot of people with mobility impairment who do want to go outside and participate in activities designed for them. They want the clothing to go with them and their caregivers."

Better gear can't come along soon enough for Paisley Cooper. "It's important for wheelchair users, people like me, to have access to technically advanced, fashionable and tailored-for-sitting apparel that enhances self-esteem to encourage wheelchair users to explore outdoor adventures."

The time she spent wheeling along with Strickfaden, the students and her own family, was unforgettable, she added. "The snow falling was just beautiful. I didn't think I would be able to do a trail like that ever again."

Peter Jarvis

Material culture design students join Shauna Paisley Cooper (centre) for a trail ride to find out what kind of clothing people with disabilities need to better enjoy winter in Alberta.

Research shows organisms could have evolved earlier than previously thought

Brian Murphy

A University of Alberta-led research team has discovered that billions of years before life evolved in the oceans, thin layers of microbial matter in shallow water produced enough oxygen to support tiny, mobile life forms.

"Worm-like creatures could have lived on the oxygen produced by photosynthetic microbial material," said lead U of A researcher Murray Gingras.

"Life sustaining oxygen was produced and stayed within what we call biomats even though oxygen concentrations in the surrounding water were not high enough to support life."

The research was conducted in shallow lagoons in Venezuela where the high salt content is comparable to oceans older than 500 million years.

The researchers say the link between biomats and animals is demonstrated by the trace-fossil record, showing tracks left behind by the movements of the worm-like creatures. The trace-fossil records for these animals date to at least 555 million years ago.

"These findings suggest that the appearance of animals was not dependent on an oxygenated ocean," said Gingras. "Rather, the earliest animals could have lived within photosynthetic biomats and derived life-sustaining oxygen from that source."

The most widely accepted date for the start of anima life on Earth is 700 to 600 million years ago, when oxygen was produced in deep ocean water.

Gingras is hopeful this research will spark further investigations. "We've opened the door to the search for life in early periods of the Earth's history, when it was believed there was absolutely no oxygen and no chance of finding life," said Gingras.

The research was led by U of A geologist Murray Gingras and geomicrobiologist Kurt Konhauser. It was published May 15 online in *Nature Geoscience*.

Stephane Lalonde

Researchers dissect a biomat in a shallow lagoon in Venezuela.

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Sergeant Tony Thomsen on patrol at Augustana Campus in Camrose.

Augustana Campus gets its man

staff spotlight

Lisa Feng

Tony Thomsen

Meet Sergeant Tony Thomsen, Augustana Campus' "boots on the ground" for the University of Alberta's Protective Services.

In September 2010, Sergeant Thomsen was appointed community peace officer at Augustana, making him the first UAPS member to work on the Camrose campus.

Thomsen's job is to uphold the primary responsibilities of the U of A's Protective Services: "to protect life and property, to maintain the peace, to render aid to those in need, and to enforce the laws, rules and regulations equitably and fairly." He joined UAPS following a stellar 25-year career in law enforcement with both the Lethbridge Regional Police and the Camrose Police Service, where he ultimately served as the sergeant in charge of the Major Crimes Unit.

Even after years of living in Camrose, Thomsen says he was surprised by the Augustana community nestled in the heart of the city. Upon arriving on campus, he says, "one of my first revelations was, 'I never knew what we really had here.' I had travelled through the campus while I was still policing and thought to myself, 'this is a nice place—quiet, peaceful,' but never appreciated what we had. I quickly learned that this truly is a community within a larger community, and this campus presents both outstanding history and potential going forward."

> "I had travelled through the campus while I was still policing and thought to myself, 'this is a nice place—quiet, peaceful,' but never appreciated what we had."
>
> Tony Thomsen

Thomsen has spent his first year on the job forging relationships with Augustana's administration, staff and students, as well as with members of the wider Camrose community. Much of his time has been spent giving advice on safety, security and crime prevention to key stakeholders in these communities, including Residence Life staff, for whom he hosted an in-service about UAPS in the fall. He is also frequently consulted regarding safety precautions and security for major events on campus, such as the Augustana Centenary Kickoff in September, athletic tournaments and the U of A Round Dance, which brought more than 1,000 visitors to campus in January.

By being a regular presence, Thomsen is gradually building relationships with students and staff on campus, which he says is another key to keeping everyone protected. "It's not the responsibility of one person to make sure this is a safe campus; it's the responsibility of everybody who's involved in this community, and everybody is working together very collaboratively to make that happen."

As he looks to the immediate future, Sergeant Thomsen most looks forward to when the U of A's renowned "blue-phone" emergency safety system arrives on campus. In this system, a single-button speaker within a blue tower provides a direct link to UAPS. This system will allow Augustana students to access the UAPS headquarters any time of day or night. UAPS can then monitor the student through video and audio to provide immediate protection and service.

As an important member of the Augustana Campus, Thomsen's pride in his new community is evident. "There's no doubt in my mind that University of Alberta Augustana Campus is one of the safest campuses in Canada. It's one of the safest places to further your education, and administration has taken extraordinary steps to ensure that it continues to be safe. And I'm part of that formula."

U of A continues good showing in world ranking

Folio Staff

The University of Alberta has landed itself in the top 100 in three of six natural sciences categories in the latest release of the 2011 QS World University Rankings by subject.

Chemistry, math and earth sciences were given a spot within the top 100, with each subject garnering high marks for employer reputation. The U of A was ranked in the top 150 in areas of physics, metallurgy and environmental sciences. No specific rank is given to the institutions ranked above 50.

Previous QS World University Rankings rankings by subject released earlier in the year saw the university crack the top 100 in all three life science categories—medicine, biological sciences and psychology—including a ranking of 50th in psychology. As well, the U of A landed in the top 100 in all five of the ranking's individual technical subjects, which consisted of mechanical, aeronautical and manufacturing, civil and structural engineering, computer science and information systems, chemical engineering and electrical engineering.

According to QS World University Rankings officials, the ranking by subject responds to a need for comparative data that looks at specific areas of expertise in the institutions. As its centrepiece, the ranking uses academic reputation, which is gathered thanks to a short survey of more than 15,000 academics. Relevant employers are also polled about their recruitment tendencies. The ranking also factors in citations per paper.

In 2010, the overall QS World University Ranking had the U of A ranked 78th in the world, with a ranking of 74th in the category of engineering and IT.

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Former firefighter brings experience, passion to new job

Jane Hurly

Bill McGarvey has found his perfect job—again.

"I am having the time of my life," is the way McGarvey, an exercise physiology doctoral graduate, former musician and retired firefighter, describes his serendipitous new career – or rather careers. For McGarvey's new occupation sees him wearing three different hats.

McGarvey, who obtained his doctoral degree from the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation in 2004, retired from fire fighting in 2009 after 30 years on the force and was invited to work as a research assistant to Stewart Peterson, director of the Work Physiology Laboratory and McGarvey's former PhD supervisor, and Mike Stickland, head researcher at the Northern Lung Centre.

McGarvey has also been asked to teach some undergraduate exercise-physiology classes and coordinate Petersen's firefighter testing laboratory, which conducts applicant testing for fire departments across northern Alberta.

"I like the variety," said McGarvey. "All three jobs are extremely interesting and different. Participants in Mike's studies have chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder. They basically come into the lab, lay on the bed, and I very quietly take different measurements to determine different aspects of their physiology. In Petersen's lab, they're on the treadmill in full [firefighter] gear, working hard—and the teaching is a unique experience, especially when you're standing in front of 60 students."

It would be an understatement to say that McGarvey's career has been adventurous. A gifted tenor saxophone player, he went to Grant MacEwan College for a music diploma after spending two years in the education faculty and one in physical education and recreation. When he graduated from MacEwan, McGarvey says he began looking for a career that allowed him to pursue his music career. That's when he found the fire department.

"When you go into a house that's on fire, it's pitch black with smoke. You're dragging a hose, you can't see anything in front of you, it's hot, you don't know where the fire is, whether above or below you, then all of a sudden you see a lick of fire on the stairs and up over your head," said McGarvey. "Each fire is different, exciting."

Among his most vivid memories from his fire fighting days is the night the tornado hit Edmonton in July 1987.

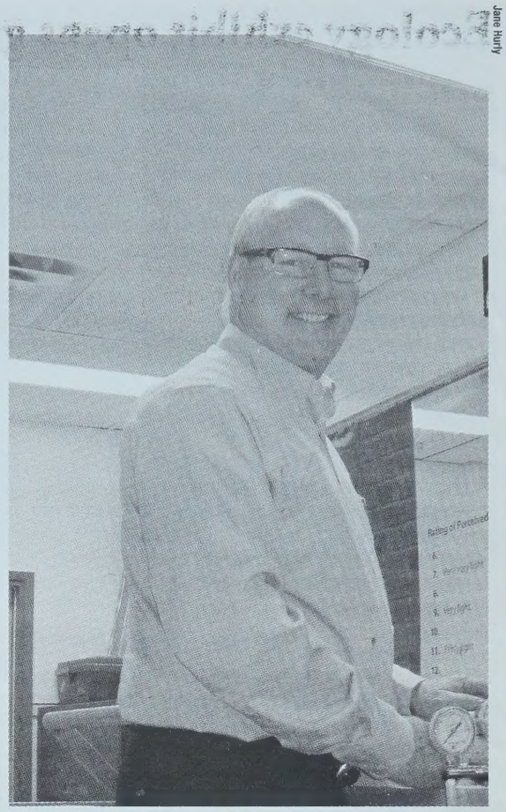
"We travelled to most of the sites that had been hit," said McGarvey, "seeing Belgravia Road flooded, semis and cars tossed upside down. In one part there was forest. I was in the back of the pump looking at trees, trees, trees, then suddenly all the trees were snapped off at about 10 feet. It was like a giant alleyway about 50 feet wide. Then we passed it and there were trees again."

At age 32, McGarvey came back to university, ready to tackle his unfinished degree. "I took a physiology class and fell in love with it," he says.

That growing interest led to a master's degree with Mohan Singh on muscular strength and endurance. This experience gave McGarvey a chance to work with the military to help develop applicant-testing protocols. With the desire to learn more, McGarvey pursued a doctoral degree under Petersen, looking at how the body uses fuels like carbohydrates and fats in the recovery period after moderate exercise and more intense interval training.

Although he never intended his education to turn into a new career, he does have advice for anyone wondering what career path they should follow.

"Of course you should follow your passion, but there are two sides to passion," said McGarvey. "You can find something that you're interested in and go after it, but you can also create a passion for anything you learn and love. The more you learn about something, the better you become at it. Go in with the right attitude and the right open mindedness and you'll probably develop a passion for it."



Jane Hurly

Bill McGarvey completed his PhD in 2004, then came back to wear the hats of research assistant, instructor and firefighter fitness laboratory coordinator.

Surgeon wins prize for body of work looking into infant heart transplants

Raquel Maurier

A University of Alberta researcher has been lauded by the American Society for Transplantation, thanks to her work on the smallest of patients.

Lori West

Lori West was awarded the Clinical Science Established Investigator Award, Professor Level in early May, for her "legendary" research contributions to the field of transplantation. Her research has shown that infants can safely have heart transplants from donors who are a different blood type or blood group.

"Normally, you need to match donor and recipient blood types for a heart transplant, but we showed some years ago those rules don't apply to infants," says West. "Understanding they could have an incompatible heart, a mismatched donor, opened up a potential donor pool to them that they had never had before.

"But beyond that, we studied the science of what happens to these children after they've had a mismatched heart transplant and we showed the immune system of the children becomes re-educated to the donor, so that they tend to remain less reactive to the donor blood group."

West, who is a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Cardiac Transplantation, an Alberta Innovates-Health Solutions Senior Scholar and Director of Heart Transplantation Research in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, continues to conduct research in this area, trying to determine what changes within the immune system that makes it react less to the donor blood group. If researchers can figure out that mystery, it could give adult transplant patients new hope and possibilities, says West.

> "Normally, you need to match donor and recipient blood types for a heart transplant, but we showed some years ago those rules don't apply to infants."
>
> Lori West

"We've been studying the immune system for a decade," she says. "Part of our efforts are an attempt to understand how and why infant immune systems are less reactive to donor blood group antigens. If we can really understand it at the cellular and molecular level, we might be able to develop strategies by which that could be used by older patients."

At the award ceremony, an AST representative noted West's work was "legendary." West said she was touched by the kind summary of her work.

"They talked about the impact of my work in transplantation," says West, who is also a professor in pediatrics, surgery and immunology for the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. "They recognized the whole body of my work—how combining the science and the research and the clinical service has made a lasting impression on patient care."

Earlier this year, West also received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Society of Transplantation. She came to the U of A in 2005 from Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children.

Ultimately, West would like to see a system where there are enough donor organs available for every patient who needs them. And she would like to find a way to allow the immune system to accept donor organs without the use of anti-rejection drugs.

A party 100 years in the making

Christopher Thrall

From June 3 to 5, the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus in Camrose will host the biggest party of the last 100 years.

Hundreds of alumni from Augustana Campus, Augustana University College and the Camrose Lutheran College will visit their alma mater for a weekend of events, demonstrations and music culminating in Sunday's centenary convocation of the 2011 graduates.

"In this centennial year, it's my great privilege as dean of the campus to welcome alumni, friends and former staff to a homecoming and convocation weekend," said Augustana Dean Roger Epp. "Those of us who have been entrusted with the treasure of Augustana in this generation have been inspired by its history and the chance to retell its stories.

"But as we begin a second century we are also excited to share our transformative new buildings and the educational aspirations that will continue to distinguish our campus."

After the reception and family campfire on Friday night, Vikings Athletics alumni will enjoy a pub night. Saturday will be packed with open houses from campus departments, lectures from current faculty and student demonstrations. Attendees are also invited to a barbecue and showcase stage featuring performances by alumni and faculty bands. Centenary installations will be on display all weekend, including an exhibition of student artwork from the past 18 years.

Several generations of Augustana choristers will perform together at Saturday's banquet. The banquet will be followed by a lounge featuring legendary Canadian rockers 54-40.

All Augustana alumni are welcome, as are all other U of A alumni, faculty, staff, students and community members. To register go to www.augustana.ualberta.ca/homecoming/.

Supplied

President Indira Samarasekera and Dean Roger Epp sit on a bench the U of A dedicated to Augustana as a centenary gift Sept. 21, 2010.

Ecology exhibit opens grandma's sewing basket

Bev Betkowski

Students who want to learn about the magic of textiles and fashion, but can't sew a stitch, will get a nip-and-tuck history lesson when they start classes at the University of Alberta this spring and fall.

A new U of A exhibit is opening up grandma's sewing box to pay tribute to the sometimes quirky yet ingenious ways that seamstresses of the past did their intricate work.

"Tools of the Trade," which opened May 10 and runs until January 2012 in the main floor inner lobby of the Human Ecology building, features artifacts from the U of A's clothing and textiles collection, the private collections of faculty members and the Royal Alberta Museum.

Students enrolled in the Department of Human Ecology's clothing and textiles programs take a second-year course in apparel design and construction, and for some of them it is the first serious hands-on encounter they have with needles, thread and patterns. The exhibit will reinforce their connection to the craft of sewing and pass along a sense of traditions being upheld, said Vlada Blinova, course lecturer and manager of the University of Alberta Clothing and Textiles Collection.

"It's important to introduce students to these tools and how they were used in the past," Blinova said. "It helps them build an understanding of the skill and techniques needed to sew."

The exhibit boasts about 50 artifacts dating as far back as the 18th century, including antique sewing machines, some of them child-sized. On loan from the Royal Alberta Museum, the machines are pint-sized cousins of the everyday versions used by women in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Their daughters, as young as four or five, learned to sew alongside them, with the little machines doubling as toys and learning tools.

Knowing how to sew was a crucial skill for women, who, when wed, were expected to clothe their families and decorate their homes using needle, thread and their own creativity. The exhibit represents a female rite of passage, Blinova said.

"It was important for a woman to be ready for her adult life, to sew and take care of her family. And the earlier they started to learn, the better their skills were by the time they were ready to get married." The oldest artifact in the exhibit, a sampler completed by an 11-year-old girl in 1736, shows the level reached by a tender age. "You can see the high quality of craftsmanship at such a young age."

The exhibit also boasts an oddball assortment of sewing tools, including a crimping iron, heated with a metal block and perfect for creating bits of pleated frou-frou on a frock. Tailor's soap from turn-of-the-century England, used to mark cloth for cutting, is also shown, and was the forerunner to the dressmaker's chalk used today.

The exhibit features pedestrian items like pin cushions and hot sadirons of all sizes, which were used to smooth the most delicate lace and hard-to-reach corners. But alongside those artifacts are personal, well-worn items like sewing boxes, a wire mesh dress form and a thimble collection. Vibrant gown illustrations from an early 19th-century collection of fashion plates also opens a window to the hottest patterns of the day, to which any well-tailored woman would have aspired.

Robyn Stobbs, a fourth-year Human Ecology student majoring in clothing and textiles, feels the connection with the sewing tools that were used more than 100 years ago, even though she'll never likely use them herself.

"I always like to see the history behind what I am doing."

Bev Betkowski

Robyn Stobbs shows off one of the sewing boxes from the Department of Human Ecology's "Tools of the Trade" exhibit.

Researchers take team approach to patient safety during spinal manipulation

Sandra Pyskiywyc

A recent team grant by the Canadian Institute for Health Research is providing an innovative approach to researching patient safety for those who provide and receive spinal-manipulative therapy.

The $2-million grant over five years brings together health researchers from across Canada and will involve input from four regulatory colleges in Alberta. "From everything we understand about patient safety, the best way to achieve it is through a multidisciplinary approach—this involves four different professions all of whom have one area that overlaps," said Sunita Vohra, professor in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research scholar. "Approximately half our population in Canada has received the therapy.

"To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that the four colleges have collaborated with each other in a research initiative. We're thrilled to work with the colleges of medicine, osteopathy, physical therapy and chiropractic."

Vohra is joined on the Canada-wide team by fellow University Alberta researchers Greg Kawchuk, professor in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine and Canada Research Chair in Spinal Function, and Timothy Caulfield, professor in the Faculty of Law and School of Public Health, as well as Heather Boon from the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy at University of Toronto and Maeve O'Beirne from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary.

Spinal manipulation, which is a non-invasive manual procedure applied to specific body tissues with therapeutic intent, is the most common complementary and alternative medicine procedure provided in North America. While manipulation is most commonly provided by chiropractors, it is also provided by physiotherapists, physicians and osteopaths.

> "To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that the four colleges have collaborated with each other in a research initiative."
>
> Sunita Vohra

At present, there is no formal reporting mechanism to document adverse events associated with manipulation. The study team aims to create a culture of safety around manipulation by developing instruments that practitioners and patients can use to record and report adverse events.

Caulfield, research director at the Health Law Institute, AHFMR senior scholar and Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy, will be exploring, as part of the study, the legal obligations of health-care providers, including the obligation to disclose the risks and limitations of the therapy.

"We are going to analyze the legal obligations associated with adverse events as well as explore how this therapy is depicted in the popular press," said Caulfield. "The public gets much of its information from the news, so we want to figure out what the news says about risks, limitations and adverse events."

Kawchuk will be looking at understanding how tissues might be injured from spinal manipulation and how that possibility can be reduced. With this information, he says he hopes to "design different ways to deliver spinal manipulation and create specific training simulators to help clinicians better deliver spinal manipulation."

This team approach is a novel tactic that is generating unique opportunities for the team members to interact and produce new ideas almost immediately.

All five researchers met at the U of A May 19 with participants from the regulatory colleges as well as health-care providers, students and policy makers to begin a dialogue around fine tuning the grant and its implementation.

"It's a way to engage with people most directly involved from the very beginning," said Vohra. "The area we are studying, spinal manipulation, is something we all have in common in our regulated scope of practice. We're not taking a narrow look at this issue."

Student plan for abandoned gas plant leads to writing award, galvanizes town

Bev Betkowski

Once the industrial heartbeat of a community, the Turner Valley Gas Plant now sits idle, waiting for a new use. When John Barlow, editor of the *Okotoks Western Wheel*, heard about the plan that University of Alberta students had to repurpose the abandoned plant in the southern Alberta town, he knew he had to write about it.

"We ran a story because the students proposed an extremely unique idea on how to utilize the plant, and provided some viable alternatives to resuscitate it. It also sparked a debate in our readership area and across Alberta regarding the future of the gas plant. Residents in the area are once again talking about doing something with it."

The newspaper story, which outlined details of a plan to turn the former gas plant into a greenhouse for Alberta prairie grasses, won the 2011 University of Alberta Writing Award. The innovative plan was developed as a class project by undergraduate students, under the guidance of Anne Naeth, professor of renewable resources at the U of A.

Though hypothetical in nature, the plan was extensively researched and is feasible in the community's eyes, Barlow said.

"Now there is a real push in the community to have the gas plant developed as an interpretive centre using some of the proposals included in the study done by the U of A."

The writing award, which included second- and third-place winners, was given out May 7 at the 91st annual spring convention of the Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association.

Established in 2006 by the U of A's Office of University Relations , the award recognizes outstanding coverage by Alberta's community newspapers of U of A students, research projects or coverage of provincial post-secondary education issues in general. It was created as part of the university's ongoing commitment to rural Alberta and its communities.

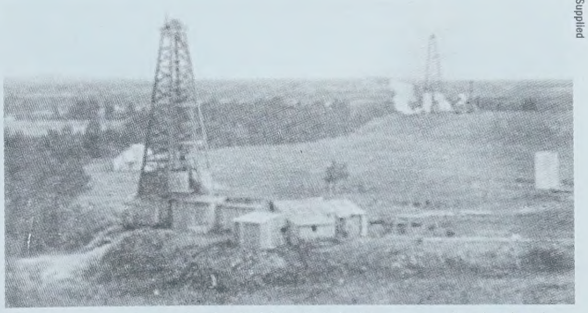
"The U of A is the province's flagship university, and as such we seek to have a positive impact on all the communities we serve," said Deborah Pozega Osburn, vice-president of university relations. "That impact can come through research discoveries, through the good work that our alumni are doing in their home communities, through our ability to provide a world-class education to Albertans—in more ways, really, than we can imagine.

"This year's award-winning story is particularly important because it brings to light ways that University of Alberta students can contribute to the well-being of our communities," Pozega Osburn added. "We commend the *Okotoks Western Wheel* for the work that it does to keep its readers informed of issues that affect their daily lives, and thank the editorial team for its coverage of our students and their contributions."

Judges named Barlow's story the winner for its depth in showing how undergraduate research has real-life applications.

The second-place winner was a story published in the *Westlock News* highlighting a U of A study being conducted in a local school by education professor Marie-Claire Shanahan. The story described how Shanahan was working to bring complex scientific information to a level that would engage elementary school students.

Third place went to the St. Albert *Saint City News* for a story written about a philosopher-in-residence program at a local elementary school led by U of A scholars John Simpson and Rob Wilson. The spirit of the story was deemed by judges to reflect the U of A's promise of "uplifting the people" by being involved in the community.



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A newspaper story about a plan that U of A students had to repurpose the abandoned gas plant in Turner Valley into a greenhouse won the 2011 U of A Writing Award.

news [shorts]

folio *presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.*

Researchers invited to apply to funding program

Launched by Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions and funding partners, the aim of the new "Quality Food for Health" research and innovation program is to improve the health and well-being of Albertans while increasing the competitiveness of the province's food and agricultural industries. This three-year innovative program has base funding of $4 million with the unique ability to obtain additional funds from the funding partners if projects are in alignment with their research needs.

Researchers with a strong Alberta connection within private industry, academic institutions, provincial and federal research centres or non-profit research establishments are invited to submit a letter of intent to the program as the first step of the application process for a non-repayable research grant. Multidisciplinary teams and collaboration are encouraged to foster innovative research projects. The deadline for receipt of the LOI is Friday, June 10, 2011 at 2 p.m. Forms and additional information is available at www.albertainnovates.ca/bio/funding.

Creating high-value chemicals from seed oil

A two-step process that converts plant oil into an organic polyol is opening up a world of commercial possibilities.

Jonathan Curtis, in the Department of Agricultural Food and Nutritional Sciences, and his research group have discovered how to convert canola oil into organic polyoyl, or biopolyol, used to produce polyurethanes and adhesives.

Canola oil is first mixed with hydrogen peroxide to yield epooxidized canola oil, or ECO. It is then mixed with a diol under acidic conditions to create the bio-polyol Liprol.

"Polyols are used to manufacture polymer like polyesters, polymids and polyurethanes," says Curtis. "Polyurethanes in particular have large commercial applications and right now, it's the petrochemical industry that produces the overwhelming majority of polyurethane."

However, Polyurethane produced from Curtis' biopolyol can easily be used as a substitute for petrol-based polyol. The group is currently working with a major car parts manufacturer to develop rigid foam products to make parts such as dashboards and headliners. In a separate project, Curtis and his team are collaborating with a local company to optimize the manufacture of rigid foam insulation panels to be used in the manufacture of modular buildings, providing structural integrity and greener thermal insulation.

New research initiative to help health-care aides

Alberta's seniors and those in home care can look forward to improved efficiency of care thanks to a new research initiative funded by Alberta Health and Wellness. The research team led by Lili Liu, principal investigator from the University of Alberta is looking at how technology can help address the workloads of health care aides, Alberta's second largest group of front-line health-care providers.

Alberta Health and Wellness awarded the inter-disciplinary team a grant of $800,000 to research technologies for the province's health-care aides who serve older adults living at home with chronic conditions.

With an expected demand for at least 5,000 HCAs in the next five years and the number of seniors in Alberta expected to double in 20 years, Liu says this partnership could not come at a better time.

"HCAs are important to the care of so many seniors and we want to make sure that quality care continues," says Liu, who is also the chair of occupational therapy at U of A's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine. "The research initiative addresses home care and aging-in-place—we are interested in older adults, chronic conditions and palliative and mental health."

Over a period of one year, this project will document and analyze the workflows and workload issues of HCAs and identify and implement affordable technologies to help deal with these issues.

Heart research earns award for undergraduate student

Why some people in a warm environment may feel lightheaded or nauseous after standing intrigues kinesiology undergraduate student Tim Just. His quest to discover the answer to that question earned him the award for "outstanding presentation in biophysical sciences" at the annual Bertha Rosenstadt National Undergraduate Research Conference at the University of Toronto.

Just was particularly interested in looking at the difference in the output of blood from the heart's left ventricle in study participants who were first heat-stressed, then tilted 30 degrees to simulate the effects of standing, and who then either experienced symptoms of faintness or nausea, or had no symptoms at all.

"We found big differences in the diastolic phase of the heart between people who were symptomatic and asymptomatic. The volume of the heart, when completely filled, decreased much more in the symptomatic group than the asymptomatic group. That meant that because the heart wasn't able to sufficiently supply the brain with enough blood, it resulted in feelings of lightheadedness and nausea in the symptomatic participants."

Just says his appetite for research has been whetted. He begins his master's degree this September looking at vascular tone control. "My undergraduate degree has been a great experience, particularly for the connection you get with Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation. I can't imagine doing the things I've been able to do here, anywhere else."

Ryan Heise

Hal Friesen and Renee Polziehn demo some of Hal's research to high school students via video conference.

Grad student shares laser research with high school students—online

Ryan Heise

Hal Friesen enthusiastically explains the demo he has set up before him. Perched on a stack of books, a laser is aimed at a whiteboard and a beaker of water. He dims the lights in his lab and shows how light changes direction when passing through water. It's a deceptively simple demo but perfectly illustrates the concept of refraction.

A graduate student in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Friesen brings the lights back up and asks if there are any questions. It seems like an odd query considering the only other person in the room is Renee Polziehn, outreach coordinator for the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, seated behind a laptop. But on the other end of that laptop are dozens of students across Alberta, taking in Friesen's presentation on laser research at the U of A.

For the past year, Friesen has been working with Polziehn and the FGSR giving presentations and tours of the U of A to junior-high and high-school students via video conference. Today he's giving a presentation on his area of research – lasers – to students at Edmonton's Queen Elizabeth High School and Barrhead Composite High School in Barrhead, a rural community about an hour's drive northwest of the city.

Now in its third year, video conference outreach at the U of A has grown in response to the desire to engage with communities outside of Edmonton.

> "This is just one way to get out and share research with schools. But for rural schools, it might be the only way to experience it."
>
> Hal Friesen

"This is just one way to get out and share research with schools," Friesen said. "But for rural schools, it might be the only way to experience it."

Polziehn agrees, adding that the video conference eliminates many of the barriers to rural engagement.

"You could get someone to travel out to talk about a specific topic, like lasers or engineering in general, but that's time consuming and you can't take a lab with you. The ability to visit a world-class research facility without travelling, without bus fees, and without waivers for students, is very valuable," she said.

For Friesen, who is aiming to finish his master's degree in a few months, participating in the program acts as a refresher for the toll working in a lab can have on you.

"I have a bit of difficulty balancing everything, but I'm happy I'm doing it. It's a bit of a reality check for why I'm doing research. You sometimes forget why you're doing it, so it's good to share it and talk about it in different ways."

The program has grown beyond Alberta and campus tours, however, and is now connecting the U of A and local schools with schools across Canada and the U.S., as well as with students in the Middle East and Europe, to share ideas and perspectives on various topics. Friesen notes that high-school students aren't the only ones benefiting from the program's expanded focus.

"My favourite part about this outreach is meeting new people and seeing what else is happening on campus, like the liberal arts day we had recently.

"I would have never set out to learn about that stuff myself, but it was really interesting."

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U of A Press leads way with 13 Alberta Book Publishing nominations

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta Press' books have been judged by their covers as part of the 2011 Alberta Book Publishing Awards, which saw the U of A Press lead the way with 13 nominations, including three of four nods in the book-cover category and a bid for publisher of the year.

The three U of A Press books in the Book Cover/Jacket Design were all designed by the press' Alan Brownoff. The list includes *Too Bad* by Robert Kroetsch, *The Measure of Paris* by Stephen Scobie, and *Will the Real Alberta Please Stand Up?* by Geo Takach.

Brownoff was also nominated in the book design category for *The Measure of Paris* and *Rudy Wiebe: Collected Stories, 1955-2010* by Rudy Wiebe.

U of A Press books also took three of four spots in the Scholarly and Academic Book Award category. The nominations included *J.B. Harkin* by E.J. (Ted) Hart, *The Beginning of Print Culture in Athabasca Country* by Patricia Demers, translated by Naomi McIlwraith and Dorothy Thunder, and *"Collecting Stamps Would Have Been More Fun"* by Stouck & Stouck, Eds.

Rounding out the U of A Press nominations were *Rudy Wiebe: Collected Stories, 1955-2010* the Trade Fiction Book Award category, *The Measure of Paris* and Myrna Kostash's *Prodigal Daughter* in the Trade Non-Fiction Book Award category, and *Memory's Daughter* by Alice Major is up for a Poetry Book Award.

"Our deep commitment to publishing books of excellence showed in the steady stream of design, content, and editorial awards our books and team members have garnered. Combined with the strength of our dedicated marketing team, there can be little doubt that the University of Alberta Press is a publisher par excellence," said Cathie Crooks, sales and marketing manager for the U of A Press. "We are particularly pleased to see the nomination for Publisher of the Year. 2010 saw the publication of some of the most ambitious printed books in the 41-year history of the University of Alberta Press."

The awards will be handed out June 11 in Calgary.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on Express News at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until June 24

The Last Best West: Glimpses of the Prairie Provinces from the Golden Age of Postcards. This exhibition of postcards is from the settlement and urbanization of the Canadian Northwest. The Peel's Prairie Provinces postcard collection contains thousands of fascinating and informative images, including personalized views of first houses, farms and family groups, as well as important events, disasters and buildings. Admission is free. Exhibition catalogues are available for $25. Noon–4:30 p.m. Lower level, South Rutherford Library.

May 22, 29, June 5 & 12

Opera NUOVA Presents: Masterclass Series. This series offers the public an opportunity to see the work it takes to become a great singer. For more information go to www.vocalartsfestival.ca

May 25

Sustainability: Pedagogies and Teaching Practices. Explore some pedagogies associated with sustainability- some top tips and also deeper explorations of teaching practices. 9 a.m.–noon. 217/219 TELUS Centre

The Elite Female Athlete: Putting the Evidence into Practice (part 4)
Part four in a series discussing applied information for those working with female athletes. Topic: Coaching Insight. Moderator: Dru Marshall. Keynote: Darren Treasure, performance psychology consultant for Nike's Oregon Project. Panel discussion follows with Pandas coaches Howie Draper, Laurie Eisler, Liz Jepsen and Russ Sluchinski. Noon–1:30 p.m. E120 Physical Education and Recreation Centre, Van Vliet.

May 26–28

International Conference on Planning, Law and Property Rights. Law Centre. www.law.ualberta.ca/plpr/2011/index.php.

May 26

Sharing Indigenous Languages. Discussions will focus on issues faced in sharing Indigenous languages, while also focusing on successes thus far, particularly in the creative realm. Six panels of speakers representing the Cree, Nisga'a, Sto:lo, Salish, Innu, Michif and Mi'kmaq languages from across Canada. 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Grand Salon Pavillon Lacerte. www.ualberta.ca/NATIVESTUDIES.

25th anniversary party Garneau University Childcare Centre. Families of all current and former attendees of the centre are invited to come and celebrate at 4:30-7 p.m. at Garneau School, 10925 87 Ave.

May 27

Making a Difference with Community-Based Research: Mobilizing Knowledge to Inform Policy and Practice. Participants will have opportunities to learn how CBR can be an effective means to create and share knowledge and more. Pre-registration is required. 8:30 a.m.–3 p.m. Enterprise Square. www.cup.ualberta.ca/index.php.

Campus Sustainability Tour. Join us for a virtual and walking tour featuring sustainable practices in our community at the U of A. The tour is from 3–4:30 p.m. The virtual tour starts at the Office of Sustainability, 2-06 North Power Plant. This free walking tour run every two weeks during the spring to fall. Spaces for the tours are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

May 29

Alumni Memorial Service. The U of A Alumni Association hosts an inter-faith service in honour of members of our alumni family who passed away in 2010. The service is conducted by U of A chaplains and features the Mixed Chorus. This event is by invitation; please contact Colleen Elliott at 780-492-0866 for more information. 2 p.m. Convocation Hall Arts and Convocation Hall.

June 1

Research Administration Day 2011. The Research Services Office offers continuing education and professional development seminars for university staff. The event provides practical presentations and interactive workshops focused on the complexity, diversity, and accountability of administrative responsibilities with research funding. The purpose of Research Administration Day is to promote and support excellence in research administration. Registration for all sessions is now available via the Learning Shop. 8 a.m.–5 p.m. TELUS Centre.

June 3

Living a Theology of Diversity. Yoon Ok Shin and Wilson MacLennan will explore and discuss biblical passages regarding the treatment and social standing of widows, orphans and more. With personal stories and experience comparisons will be made as we explore the assumptions of our cultural and faith communities in contemporary Canadian society, including conversations around racism and homophobia. Noon–2 p.m. St. Stephen's College.

Reading and Discussion with Kim Echlin. Echlin, a 2009 Giller Prize Nominee, will give a reading from her latest novel, The Disappeared. She will talk about the process of writing this novel, including travel in Cambodia, research on international truth commissions and the relationship between literature and the act of witness. This event is part of the Opening Reception of Women's Words: Summer Writing Week. 5–7 p.m. Room 2-922 Enterprise Square. www.womenswords.ca.

Poetry as Spiritual Nourishment in Caregiving. Shirley Serviss will describe her work at the U of A Hospitals as a literary artist on the wards where she uses poetry to reconnect patients with their spirits, provide comfort to their families and to inspire staff. She will also share some of her own poetry written in response to her encounters with patients and as self-care. 7–9 p.m. www.ualberta.ca/ST.STEPHENS/

Spring Convocation 2011

June 5 (Camrose)

2:30 p.m. Augustana Campus, Convocation Centre. Honorary Degree: Craig Kielburger.

June 7

3 p.m. Engineering, Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium. Honorary Degree: Ron Triffo.

June 8

10 a.m. Arts (Last names starting with A-K). Honorary Degree: Joe Schlesinger.

3 p.m. Arts (Last names starting with L-Z). Honorary Degree: Palagummi Sainath.

June 9

10 a.m. Education (Secondary, Adult, Diplomas only); Physical Education and Recreation. Honorary Degree: Louise Hayes.

3 p.m. Education (Elementary degrees only). Honorary Degree: TBD.

June 10

10 a.m. Graduate Studies and Research (Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Education, and Doctor of Music degrees only); Medicine and Dentistry. Honorary Degree: Austin Mardon.

3 p.m. Extension.

June 13

3 p.m. Graduate Studies and Research (Master's degrees and Postgraduate Diplomas only); Rehabilitation Medicine (Master's degrees only); School of Public Health (Master's degrees only). Honorary Degree: Bunny Ferguson.

June 14

10 a.m. Business. Honorary Degree: John Chin Sun Lau.

3 p.m. Nursing; Faculté Saint-Jean. Honorary Degree: Karen Luker.

June 15

10 a.m. Science (general degrees only); Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences; Native Studies. Honorary Degree: Charlie Kakotok Evalik.

3 p.m. Law; Science (Honors and Specialization degrees only). Honorary Degree: Efim Zelmanov.

Who knows best?

Supplied

Studio Theatre's production of the "The Cripple of Inishmaan" by Martin McDonagh is playing at the Timms Centre for the Arts until May 28.

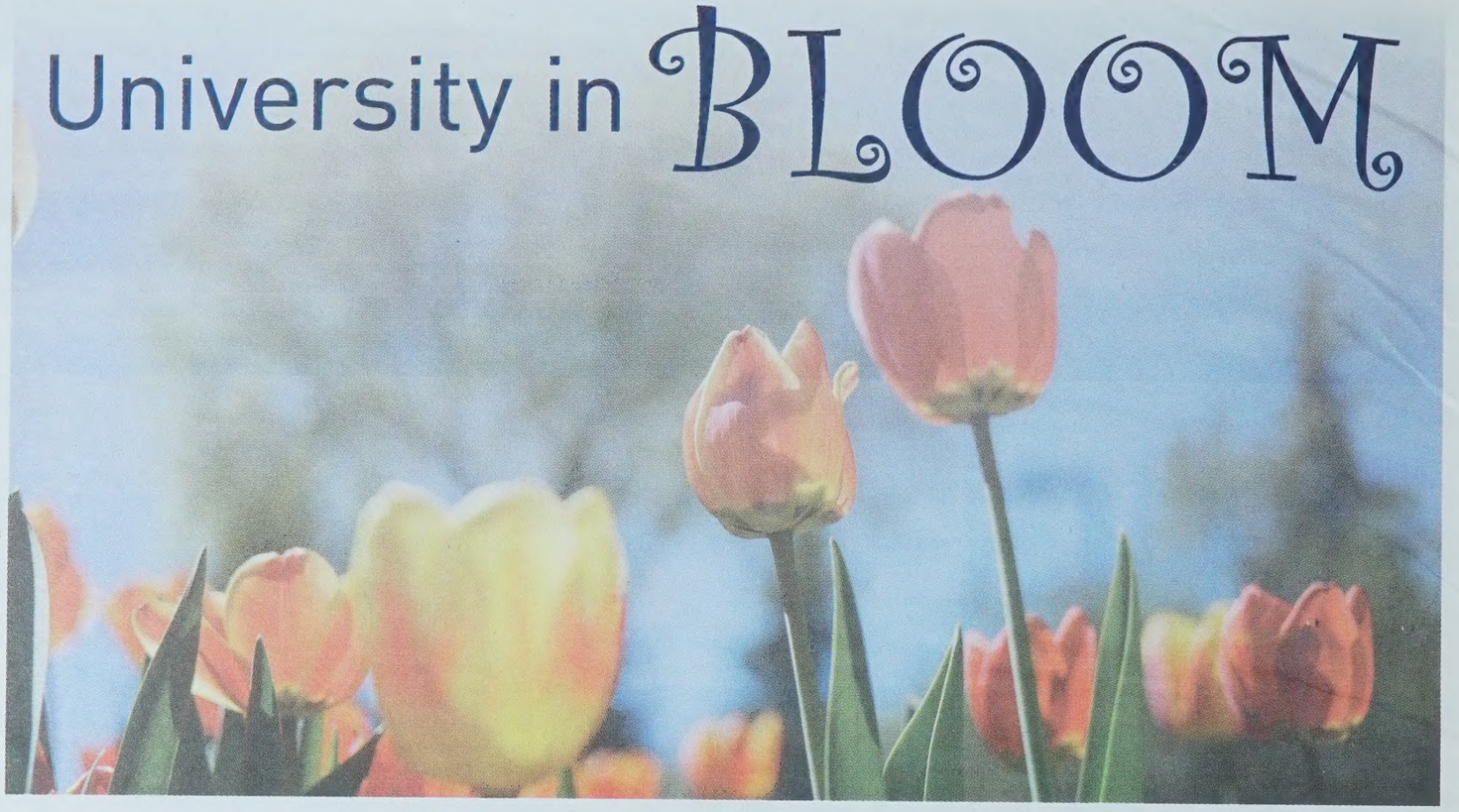
laurels

Michael MacDonald and **Mary Ingraham**, professors in the Department of Music, received the Cambridge University Press Award at the recent Society for American Music Conference.

Michael Mengel, acting chair in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, received the American Society of Transplantation Clinical Science Investigator Award at the Associate Professor Level.

Norbert Morgenstern, professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has received the 2011 H Bolton Seed Medal from the American Society of Civil Engineers. The award is given for exceptional contributions and outstanding productivity in education and consulting.

University in BLOOM



the BackPage

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 2
TLEFs announced
2011 Teaching & Learning Enhancement Fund recipients named

Page 3
Academic first
U of A welcomes Rupertsland Centre for Métis Research

Page 4 & 9
The end is near for some
Spring convocation coverage

Volume 48 Issue 19 | June 3, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Experience trumps odds when it comes to gambling

Brian Murphy

Psychology researchers at the University of Alberta have found an interesting wrinkle in the decision making process people use when gambling: People confronted with risky choices respond differently when they rely on past experiences, rather than when they just focus on the odds of winning or losing.

The research team gave people two kinds of choices. One was a choice between a sure win versus a double-or-nothing win. The other choice was between a sure loss versus a double-or-nothing loss. In some cases the odds were explained to the volunteer gamblers, and sometimes the players were just left to learn their chances through their experience playing the game.

Surprisingly, most people made the exact opposite choices when they were told the odds, opposed to when they learned about them on their own. With experience, the test subjects started to gamble on the double-or-nothing for wins and they avoided the risky choice for losses. Their gambling tendencies were reversed when they were told the odds.

"We think that people choose in fundamentally differently ways when they are remembering their past wins and losses than when they are thinking about abstract future possibilities," said U of A researcher Marcia Spetch. "When basing choices on memory, people may focus more on the bigger wins and the bigger losses."

Beyond this novel finding, this research provides a new task for studying gambling behaviour that may one day help in understanding risky choice behaviour and gambling addictions. "A follow-up study is being conducted using the same gambling task," said Spetch. "But this time the participants will be hooked up to MRI equipment to identify areas of the brain involved in risky decision making."

The research was led by Spetch and Elliot Ludvig from the U of A's departments of psychology and computing science. Ludvig is now a researcher at Princeton University. The research was published June 1 in the journal *PLosOne*.

A feather in the FAB Gallery's cap

Audrey Lozowy

Renewable resources' John Acorn lends a hand to Merle Patchett to install "Fashioning Feathers" at the FAB Gallery. The exhibit explores the complex geographies of collection, production and consumption behind the making of feather fashions. The exhibit runs until June 11.

Marshall accepts provost position at the University of Calgary

Michael Brown

After 30 years of accomplishments at the University of Alberta, Deputy Provost Dru Marshall has accepted the position of provost and vice-president academic at the University of Calgary, effective Aug. 1.

Dru Marshall

"Dru Marshall has been a valued colleague in the various roles she has played at the University of Alberta: as vice-dean in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, as a scholar in the area of childhood obesity and children's fitness and as a successful coach of university and national field hockey teams," said U of A Provost Carl Amrhein. "Dr. Marshall has served as a trusted adviser and productive leader in the Office of the Provost, and those of us who have served with her on General Faculties Council, Deans' Council and other campus-wide governing and advisory committees will miss her voice as we wrestle with issues and initiatives that shape the future of this university."

Marshall has served as deputy provost since June 1, 2007, distinguishing herself as an intense advocate for post-secondary education and a dynamic champion for the U of A. In her time as deputy provost, Marshall has emerged as one of Alberta's most experienced academic leaders and administrators, and is responsible for a broad portfolio that includes the university's academic budget, strategic initiatives and academic quality assurance. She has been the key provincial government liaison for the U of A on academic budget, enrolment, tuition and other academic issues, and has been the lead on major strategic initiatives with organization-wide impact such as the university's institutional access plan. She has also been the regional chair for U of A's international strategies in Brazil and Mexico.

"I left the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation for the opportunity to work with Carl—and I couldn't have asked for a better mentor—and be part of President Indira Samarasekera's vision for the university," said Marshall. "What I didn't realize was how strong the entire team of vice-presidents was, how each is a great leader in their own right and how fortunate I was to be able to be part of such a great team."

As one of Canada's most recognized and respected experts in the field of exercise physiology, Marshall has participated in numerous national and provincial committees and on advisory boards that have shaped public policy in the areas of health, wellness and physical activity. Prior to her appointment as deputy provost at U of A, Marshall held a series of increasingly senior roles in the university's Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, including vice-dean, associate dean (academic) and assistant dean (undergraduate programs).

Marshall is highly regarded for her work about women in sport and physical activity. The Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women in Sport and Physical Activity, or CAAWS, has twice recognized her as one of Canada's most influential women in sport in Canada. She is a sought-after speaker and presenter at academic, government and association conferences and events across Canada, and is currently chair of CAAWS. She has published more than 30 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, more than 60 reports, manuals, abstracts and articles, and has contributed to over 60 research projects.

Throughout her career, Marshall has been involved at the highest levels of amateur sport as a coach, trainer and physiologist. She helped lead the National Women's Field Hockey Team to medals in the 1999 Pan Am Games and the 2001 Americas Cup. She has a long list of coaching awards and continues to mentor young coaches today. Marshall currently serves on two editorial boards for coaching journals.

Marshall will remain in her position as deputy provost until June 30.

Marshall says she has great memories from her time at the U of A and is grateful for the opportunities she had as both a graduate student and a member of the faculty. "The University of Alberta is a place rich with history and tradition, but the most important resource that it possesses are its people. They are special, and I consider myself lucky to have been a part of things here for the past 30 years."

folio

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folio's mandate is to serve as a credible news source for the university community by communicating accurate and timely information about issues, programs, people and events and by serving as a forum for discussion and debate. folio is published 23 times per year.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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University announces 2011 TLEF grant recipients

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta's support of learning beyond the classroom was given a shot in the arm recently as the Office of the Provost announced the 11 new projects that will benefit from the university's Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund.

"The fund has been a catalyst for realizing the commitment laid out in *Dare to Deliver* to enhance discovery learning and strengthen student engagement in their studies, as well as become more active in the university and wider community," said Colleen Skidmore, vice-provost (academic programs). "For instructors, it has fostered the development of innovative, active learning environments and teaching skills, as well as a deepened understanding of the processes of teaching and learning."

Jana Grekul

The fund, launched in 2006, is a key initiative in support of the U of A's *Dare to Deliver* vision document. The purpose of the fund is to support those engaged in teaching at the university, allowing them to improve their teaching skills, enhance their understanding of teaching and learning processes and provide teaching environments to optimize the student experience.

Jana Grekul, professor in the Department of Sociology, received a TLEF grant of $31,687 for her project entitled "Community Service-Learning in a Large Introductory Sociology Class."
Through meaningful engagement with non-profit community agencies and critical reflection of the experience, Grekul says her students will integrate both sources of knowledge into a new form of learning. She says the project is innovative in that it aims to implement community-service learning in a large introductory sociology class—180-plus students—for the first time on campus.

Grekul says projects might include arranging a Food Bank drive, a Habitat for Humanity project, participating in the annual Homelessness Count, or working with any number of community agencies. The objectives of her project are to: introduce CSL to a large classroom and expose many first-year students to this transformative pedagogical approach, while producing a short, practical guidebook on using CSL in large classrooms for instructors and community agencies.

"For undergraduate students, the goal is to have them engage with the community in such a way as to bring the course material to life, to illustrate to them that what we talk about and read about in the classroom has merit and value in terms of understanding the community—and the social issues facing our community—within which we live," said Grekul

Ultimately, she says the hope is that "transformative learning" will occur—that the students will be able to connect, with the help of instructors, classroom and community-based experiences to walk away from the course with a deeper, more meaningful educational experience.

"I also think the project has the potential to provide undergraduate students the opportunity to really get to know their fellow students and build the kinds of friendships and bonds that often are difficult to form in large classrooms," she said.

Grekul says it is important for the university to support such projects because "teaching brings research to life, and research facilitates good teaching."

She says, "Teaching is how we produce future researchers, future community activists, future teachers—where would we be without it? The Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund is integral to furthering not only research into best teaching practices, but providing the support for innovation in pedagogical practices. It is this type of funding that provides much-needed support for innovation in teaching."

Quick as a bunny

Andrew Grabia

A campus rabbit has free reign inside the construction barricades north of Quad.

2011 TLEF recipients

Department of Philosophy
- Robert Wilson – *Building Collaborative Communities for Critical Inquiry* ($112,332)

Campus Saint-Jean
- Donald Ipperciel, Georg Peschke, Roger Moore and Hassan Safouhi – *Mathematical Suite for Moodle* ($90,228)

Health Sciences Council / Education
- Sharla King, Mark Hall, LuAnne McFarlane, Elizabeth Taylor, Barbara Norton, Teresa Paswlaski, Lisa Guirguis and Kent Stobart – *Integration of Interprofessional Competencies in Health Science Programs: Building a Bridge from the Classroom to Practice Environments* ($131,053)

Department of Family Medicine
- Shelley Ross, Sarah Forgie, Michel Donoff and Paul Humphries – *Evaluating the Competency-Based Achievement System: Implementation Beyond Family Medicine* ($22,837)

Department of Pediatrics
Sunita Vohra and Sarah Forgie – *CAM Fair: An Interdisciplinary Teaching Intervention for Health Sciences Students* ($23,090)

Faculty of Nursing
Karin Olson, Greta Cummings, Robert Hayward, Manal Kleib and Anne Sales – *Health Informatics in Baccalaureate Nursing Education: Effectiveness of Lecture vs. Online Learning Approaches* ($17,538)

Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine
Department of Physical Therapy
Bernadette Martin, Robert Haennel, Jason Daniels and Ric Johnson – *Evaluation of the Augustana MScPT Project: A Distributed Learning Model for Physical Therapy Education* ($84,958)

Department of Biological Sciences
Julia Foght – *Development of a Web-based, Interactive, Simulated Fermenter for Teaching Micrb 415 Industrial Microbiology and Renovation of Course Content* ($15,000)

Department of Physics
- Al Meldrum, John Beamish and Gregory Thomas – *Transforming the Undergraduate Physics Laboratory Experience: A Guided Inquiry Approach* ($137,579)
- Sharon Morsink, Craig Heinke and Gregory Sivakoff – *Enhancing Astronomy Education through On Campus Telescopes* ($55,507)

The abstracts of each TLEF recipient has been posted at www.provost.ualberta.ca/awardsandfunding/tlef.aspx. *Folio* will be featuring a different TLEF recipient every issue for the next few months.

Physical therapy professor spends day in wheelchair for charity

Jeff Morris

A physical therapy professor took a seat for what's right May 27. Jaynie Yang, a researcher in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, spent the entire day in a wheelchair to raise awareness and funds for the Canadian Paraplegic Association.

The fundraiser was the second Chair-Leaders Enabling Access event to take place in Edmonton. By donating her time, Yang hopes to allow the Canadian Paraplegic Association to continue working towards its goal of a barrier-free society.

"The CPA has been very helpful to me over many years, so I'm happy to help them," said Yang.

As a physical-therapy researcher, Yang says she fully understands the difficulties that individuals in wheelchairs face and the assistance that the CPA provides them."I've been studying individuals with spinal-cord injury for many years, so I know first hand that CPA does great work with victims of spinal-cord injury throughout the province," she says

CPA officials say they hope that the experience gives participants a sense of what life is like for individuals in wheelchairs.

"Our goal is to help individuals with mobility disabilities achieve independence, integration and acceptance while allowing full community participation," said Aaron Tarnowski, community development co-ordinator with the CPA's Alberta division.

The annual Access event calls for respected community leaders to spend an entire work day conducting their business from a wheelchair. This year's event saw Yang participate alongside 23 other Edmonton community representatives, including Mayor Stephen Mandel.

The day began at the Terwilliger Community Recreation Centre, a facility that recently won an award for innovation in accessibility. Participants maneuvered obstacle courses inside before heading off to start their day.

"I do a lot of running around normally, so being in a chair really limited things for me," says Yang. "I also had to clean my office so that the wheelchair could get to my desk."

Yang and the CPA will be collecting pledges until June 10. For more information on how to donate, visit www.cpa-ab.org.

Supplied

Jaynie Yang is flanked by third-year mechanical engineering student Sarah Lawrence (left) and second-year neuroscience student Mary Mitton.

University welcomes Rupertsland Centre for Métis Research

Bev Betkowski

The first academic centre of its kind in Canada, dedicated to Métis research, was announced May 31 by the University of Alberta and the Rupertsland Institute.

The Rupertsland Centre for Métis Research is the culmination of a decade-long partnership between the U of A and the Métis Nation of Alberta, and will co-ordinate and sustain academic research activity with and for Métis communities. Based in the U of A's Faculty of Native Studies and jointly funded by the Métis Nation of Alberta and the U of A, the centre's wide-ranging areas of research will explore Métis rights, history, land use, resources and contemporary issues such as education and health.

"The Faculty of Native Studies is deeply committed to collaborating with communities," said dean Ellen Bielawski. "The Rupertsland Centre for Métis Research recognizes and furthers a partnership with the Métis Nation of Alberta. We are so pleased that the creation of this centre deepens the University of Alberta's commitment to community-driven research, to undergraduate student research experiences and to building Aboriginal community capacity."

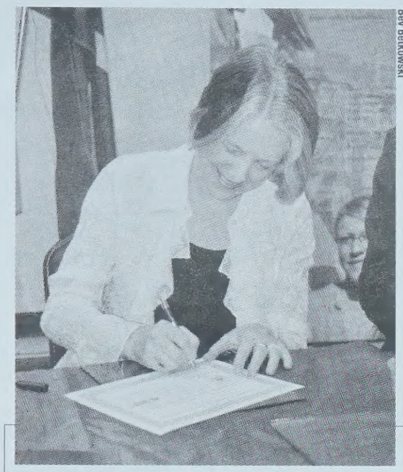
Leading the centre as research director is professor Frank Tough, associate dean of research in the Faculty of Native Studies. His work as a historical geographer led to the establishment of the Métis Archival Project Lab, or MAP, a cutting-edge initiative that has resulted in a rich database of information that will, in turn, power further research into Métis issues. The new centre builds upon years of research experience between MAP and one of its leading collaborators, the Métis National Council.

"We look forward to building an enduring, mutually beneficial partnership," Tough said. "This allows for an expansive academic research program that will build local, provincial and national connections with Métis communities, and training and employing student researchers is expected to be one of the central components of such a relationship."

The research centre will also complement the Rupertsland Institute, which was recently mandated by the Métis Nation of Alberta to deliver education and training initiatives and to partner with the U of A to establish a formal centre dedicated to Métis research. As it begins its work, the Rupertsland Centre for Métis Research will carry on the Métis Archival Project and at the same time, establish a think tank to guide and address Métis research questions.

"We are very excited about the potential of an academic centre that is designed to address our longstanding deficit in research capacity," said Audrey Poitras, president of the Métis Nation of Alberta and a board member of the Rupertsland Institute.

"Adding research capacity to Métis governance brings a whole new dimension to our provincial council decision-making process and, in keeping with the U of A's promise, will uplift our community as a whole," Poitras said.



Bev Betkowski

Faculty of Native Studies dean Ellen Bielawski signs the documents that official create the Rupertsland Centre for Métis Research.

Language revival takes to the Internet

Michael Brown

The spoken word has a University of Alberta ally taking her fight to revive one of Canada's oldest languages to the Internet.

Dorothy Thunder, a sessional Cree language instructor in the Faculty of Native Studies, is heading a team in the midst of finalizing an online Moodle version of introductory Cree, which is expected to be ready for September.

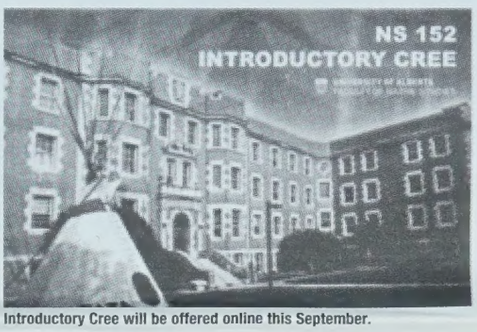
The Moodle platform is an open-source web application software package the U of A uses to help educators create online courses with a focus on interaction and collaborative construction, and is designed for continual evolution. The university's virtual learning class, the Elluminate classroom, will support the online material that requires further explanation.

"We wanted to find a way to better reach outside communities," said Thunder, who has experience with online instruction, having taught Cree for Sunchild E-Learning, a distance-learning program designed for Aboriginal youth, for the past three years. "I have had numerous phone calls from people wanting to learn Cree but can't take time away from their work schedule to actually come here to take the course. "That's when we thought we would develop something online."

Thunder, who has been an instructor on campus since 2002, says developing an online written curriculum for a language that is largely oral has had some challenges, but the finished product should give those interested in learning the basics of Cree a firm grasp of the language.

> "We wanted to find a way to better reach outside communities."
>
> Dorothy Thunder

"Some say it is a difficult language to learn with all its complexities, but once they get into the course they always have fun working with it," said Thunder, explaining that Cree is based on "animacy," a type of language that bases characteristics of its nouns on their sentient or living nature. "Certain verbs go with certain nouns, depending on their animacy. Once students have an understanding of that, Cree can be fairly straightforward."



Introductory Cree will be offered online this September.

Thunder says that, in a typical classroom setting, she will often use group work as a tool for learning Cree, and says she is hopeful that she can capture that dynamic in the virtual setting.

"I don't ever want my classrooms to be something where I am doing everything and the students are just copying," said Thunder.

"I want to ensure the classroom is a comfortable environment where students know it's OK to make mistakes and expand their knowledge."

Thunder, who is also actively involved with the Canadian Indigenous Languages and Literacy Development Institute, says she is counting on a good response to this online introductory Cree class from those working with Aboriginal communities—some of whom have been calling for a class of this nature—but fully expects students with a number of varied backgrounds to take on the language.

"That's what I like about the university—the diversity of students," said Thunder. "There are a lot of things happening here and changing all the time."

The Moodle project is part of outgoing native studies dean Ellen Bielawski's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council grant for the Cree program and features input from incoming interim dean Nathalie Kermoal and Nicole Lugosi, a junior Cree professor in the faculty.

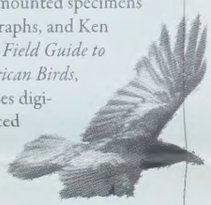
Correction

Eating crow

Michael Brown

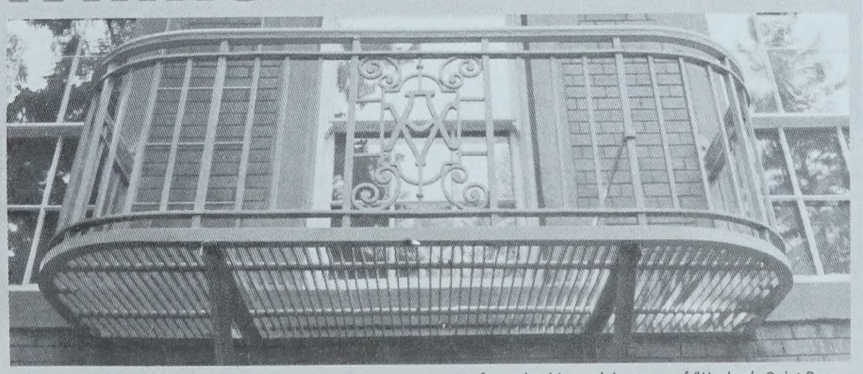
On the cover of the May 20 edition of *Folio*, we featured a photo titled "The Art of Flight," which showed a corvid-type creature we identified as a crow. A number of emails let us know that the bird in question was actually a common raven.

Ronald McElhaney, professor of biochemistry and biophysics and amateur bird watcher, consulted what he considers the two leading field guides currently available on this matter: David Sibley's *The Sibley Guide to Birds*, which is based on very accurate paintings of birds from mounted specimens and photographs, and Ken Kauffman's *Field Guide to North American Birds*, which utilizes digitally enhanced photographs supplemented with drawings.



"The relatively less broad but very long wings, the wedge-shaped tail and especially the relatively large bill, which forms an almost straight line with the top of the head, are all reliable field marks for the common raven. The American crow, in contrast, has shorter wings, a more fan-like tail, and a proportionally smaller bill, which does not form a nearly straight line with the head, giving the crow a much more prominent 'forehead.' In addition to these field marks, common ravens are frequent and very accomplished soarers, often being mistaken for soaring hawks, while American crows do not soar and then only for short distances. Both species of corvids (jays, magpies, crows and ravens) are common on campus, and I have often seen common ravens soaring around the Education Centre," wrote McElhaney.

Are You a Winner?



Congratulations to Elizabeth Adolf, whose name was drawn as part of folio's May 20 "Are You a Winner?" contest. She correctly identified the photo in question as being the back side of the tipi in front of Pembina Hall. For her correct answer, Elizabeth has won a trusty U of A-issue stainless-steel coffee mug, as well as a U of A bookmark.

Up for grabs this week is a copy of "Hockey's Quiet Revolutionary, Clare Drake: The Coaches' Coach" by Derek Drager. To win this coffee-table mainstay, simply identify where the above balcony is situated and email your answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, June 10, and you will be entered into the draw.

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Headache from: TMJ, Migraine, Tensions, Sinusitis, Whiplash, etc....
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Reproduction: Male & Female Infertility, Low-energy, Menopause S, Prostatitis, Dysmenorrhea, Menoxenia, etc....
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Skin: Server Eczema/Psoriasis; Alopecia, Hives, Shingles, etc...
Others: hemorrhoid, Diabetic-Gangrene, Raynaud's S, Rheumatism...
Etc....

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.

— WILLIAM ARTHUR WARD

CONGRATULATIONS

to our inspiring colleagues recognized recently at the Teaching Awards Reception hosted by Provost Carl Amrhein

3M National Teaching Fellowship

Scott North	Oncology
Billy Strean	Physical Education & Recreation

Provost's Award for Early Achievement of Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Daniel Barreda	Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science and Biological Sciences
John Nychka	Chemical & Materials Engineering

Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Kim Fordham	Augustana
Lise Gotell	Women's Studies Program
Suzanne Kresta	Chemical & Materials Engineering
Mitchell McInnes	Law
Janet Scott Hoyt	Music
Nesé Yuksel	Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences

Teaching Unit Award

Smart Condo Design Course

Robert Lederer	Art & Design
Lili Liu	Occupational Therapy
Ioanis Nikolaidis	Computing Science
Greig Rasmussen	Art & Design
Cheryl Sadowski	Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences
Eleni Stroulia	Computing Science

William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Anne Boerger	Campus Saint-Jean
Lisa Prichard	Biological Sciences

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"uplifting the whole people"
— HENRY MARSHALL TORY, FOUNDING PRESIDENT, 1908

Three rules of university real estate: location, location, potential

University 101

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta is a leading university in North America for a number of academic reasons, but from the perspective of Craig Moore, director of Real Estate Services, it is also coveted for its land, buildings and potential.

At the top of Moore's list of enviable traits are the four light rail transit stations that connect Enterprise Square to South Campus and the 600 acres on South Campus that could be developed over time.

"The South Campus, which was purchased in 1929/1930, is the second biggest undeveloped land in Edmonton after the downtown airport," said Moore. "South Campus has always been used for agriculture research and that may change in time, but what do you do with the land? UBC is isolated and the University of Toronto is landlocked in the downtown, which means they would have to start getting into satellite campuses if they wanted to expand. The U of A has tremendous opportunity to grow because of good planning. It is an unbelievable position to be in."

Craig Moore

Regardless of what South Campus becomes, Moore's office, Real Estate Services, will have a hand in its future. The eight-person office advises the university on the best use of its real estate assets and provides comprehensive real estate services in support of the U of A's vision and strategic initiatives. At the top of the list of responsibilities of this office are acquisitions and dispositions of real estate, including all necessary due diligence associated with these transactions.

"Things come up every day that I like to call strange and unique," said Moore.

For instance, when long-time university supporters Sandy and Cécile Mactaggart informed the university that they wanted to donate their Edmonton home and the surrounding lands to the U of A, Moore says his office was instantly involved, performing appraisals, geotechnical studies and completing environmental assessments.

"When it comes to accepting land, an environmental assessment is compulsory," said Moore, using the Edwin and Ruth Mattheis gift of their family ranch near Duchess in late 2010 as an example. "When you are talking about doing an environmental assessment on a 12,000-acre ranch with 150 gas wells, that is a major undertaking that can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars."

Moore says his office has been part of some other major university initiatives, including the purchase of College Plaza land in 1997 for $45 million, the negotiations to run the LRT through the main campus and the purchase of what is now Enterprise Square in downtown Edmonton in 2005.

"That was the university's first major [real-estate deal] off campus," said Moore of the purchase of the old Hudson Bay building in the downtown core. "To take a position off campus has huge implications and involves a lot of work, and a lot of time talking to lawyers."

Moore says his office also is on the front lines of negotiating and administrating leases entered into by the university, either as a tenant or as a landlord, both on and off campus. Landlord duties include HUB Mall, which houses about 50 occupants and is run by Marlene Hamblin in the real estate office. All told, he says, the university owns 1,185 acres of land in Edmonton, 25,000 acres outside of Edmonton, rents another 600 acres in Edmonton and 50,000 acres outside the capital region, and leases office space in other parts of Canada, including the space used by the U of A's Calgary Centre.

With so much land and building involved, Moore says planning is a painstaking process.

"The unique part of being a university is you are here forever, and that is highly unique in the real estate business," he said. "How do you know you're not going to need a piece of land 250 years from now?"

Compounding the planning process is that the U of A is an open and transparent public organization, which is a concept that Moore says is in conflict with the very essence of real estate dealings. Moore uses the purchase of a house to illustrate one of the challenges of his office. He says once buyer and seller agree on price, the focus shifts to timing.

"Possession might be two weeks, maybe a month, but if I said we'll buy it in a year, you would say I was crazy," said Moore. "But those are the time lines we deal with. We have board committees and different levels of approval, which can take three to six months, minimum.

"We deal with the public's money and there are huge responsibilities that go with that."

Convocation reinforces a job well done

the open door

Indira Samarasekera
President and vice-chancellor

June has arrived, and with it comes the University of Alberta's celebration of convocation. Before I became president, I hadn't given much thought to how much convocation matters to the institution as a whole. Of course, I've taken delight in my own children's convocations and I've been proud to see some of the students under my supervision cross the stage. Before I became president, however, I largely thought of convocation as a ceremony marking a personal milestone in an individual's life, but now that convocation has become a major presence and responsibility in my life, I think about it quite differently. And I've had a lot of time to think about it during the dozens of ceremonies I've now attended over the last six years.

For those of us—such the chancellor, the board chair, the registrar, and other members of the ceremonies team—who attend two ceremonies for several days in a row, the repetitive and ritualistic nature of convocation can challenge the dedication in all of us. But, in reality, it is not as difficult to endure as it might seem. When you are there on stage every morning and afternoon, looking into the face of each student, shaking each hand in congratulation, you are reminded that, for most of our students, this experience is unique and momentous. Most will only graduate from university once, and so, for them, every reiteration of the convocation ceremony is as meaningful and important as the last.

> "I like that convocation is a reminder that we are part of something that is much larger than any one of us standing alone."
>
> Indira Samarasekera

Even through the repetitions, references to the U of A's history, motto and traditions throughout the ceremony lend an emotional force to the university's deepest-held values, as does the pride we take in awarding honorary degrees to truly exceptional individuals. When you're there, you can see that these values seem to resonate within students more powerfully than at any other time, opening the door to a lasting connection. With thousands of students crossing the stage each spring, convocation is also clearly a substantive, and often moving, public demonstration of the fulfillment of our core mission and obligation to our students, their parents and the public we serve.

Perhaps, most importantly, I like that convocation is a reminder that we are part of something much larger than any one of us standing alone. There are about 240,000 living U of A alumni worldwide, all making contributions to their communities. Convocation is an annual opportunity for me to stop and remember this, and to know that our work has real and positive consequences, both on individual lives and the broader society. If you haven't attended in awhile, I encourage you to sneak in one day next week and see and feel for yourself why convocation matters.

Measuring attitudes towards rural sustainability leads to McCalla

Bev Betkowski

A small South American community's experiment with eco-friendly industry will soon make it into a University of Alberta classroom, thanks to one of the university's newest McCalla professors.

Debra Davidson has won a McCalla Professorship from the U of A to further her research into rural sustainability, studying four resource-based communities that are based in Alberta, and one thousands of miles away in Colombia.

The award is named after the first dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, Arthur G. McCalla. McCalla Professors are chosen for their excellence in teaching, acknowledging the importance of students, conducting themselves ethically, and being collaborative, open to change and committed to integrating their research and teaching.

Davidson, professor in the Department of Rural Economy, is studying the vulnerability of rural communities reliant on forestry to climate change. Using as samples the northern Alberta communities of Peace River, Hinton, Jasper and Manning, she is exploring attitudes and what residents see as the future vision for their communities. Linked with that is her research in the Colombian town of Puerto Carreno, where Davidson is studying how the community is reacting to new eco-friendly industry—in this case, forestry plantations. She wants to gauge local feelings on such new ventures in an area traditionally reliant on fishing, cotton and beef production.

"The findings will indicate whether new economic enterprises are going to take off or whether they will meet with resistance."

The McCalla Professorship, as well as being an honour, brings with it the valuable opportunity to focus more closely on the research and more importantly, combine it with her teaching, Davidson said.

"This award supports exploratory research that isn't necessarily at a state where it can attract funding from large granting institutions. I'll now have more latitude to hone in on certain concepts and ideas."

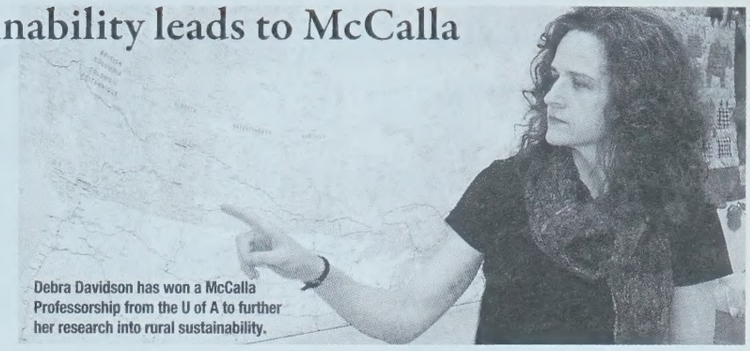
While the Alberta portion of the research is funded by the Foothills Research Institute, the McCalla funding boosts another season of field research in Puerto Carreno. Davidson plans to bring that data into her undergraduate classroom, where environmental and conservation students will grapple with the question—and possible solutions—to bring a new way of thinking to Alberta's resource-based communities.

"I will have some really fresh data and research questions that the students can sink their teeth into, and we can explore that together."

Bringing that research into class will strike a real-life note for many of the students, she believes.

"A lot of students who come through environmental and conservation sciences are from places like Peace River, and they have a personal identity with a rural community. They can relate to the kinds of questions we are asking and can identify with the potential barriers and culture associated with that."

As well, it lets her undergraduate students get close to research. "They can have a better sense of the challenges associated with applied research and some of the excitement that is associated with interpreting firsthand data. They can engage in problem-focused kind of learning, rather than reading something in a textbook."



Supplied

Debra Davidson has won a McCalla Professorship from the U of A to further her research into rural sustainability.

Davidson joined the U of A in 1999 as an assistant professor of environmental sociology in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, and became an associate professor in 2004. She is also the director of the Environmental Research and Studies Centre, which promotes educational awareness of environmental issues. As well, Davidson is working on research funded by the Alberta Prion Research Institute, studying how BSE has impacted Canadian agricultural and regulatory agencies.

She enjoys being part of the U of A, noting it has provided a good foundation over the past 12 years for her unique field of research, exploring the sociological challenges posed by entities like climate change and natural riches like forests and minerals.

"It is a very fertile environment for the kind of interdisciplinary research I like to do."

2011–12 McCalla Professorships

Faculty of Arts
Frances Pownall (history and classics)
Susan Smith (history and classics)
Alberta School of Business
Jennifer Jennings (strategic management)
Faculty of Education
Ingrid Johnston (secondary education)
Faculty of Engineering
Warren Finlay (mechanical engineering)
Faculty of Law
Elaine Hughes
Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry
Sarah Forgie (pediatrics)
Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation
John Spence
Faculty of Science
Julia Foght (biological sciences)
Frank Marsiglio (physics)

The abstracts of each McCalla winner has been posted at www.provost.ualberta.ca/awardsandfunding/mccalla.aspx. For the next 10 issues, *Folio* will be featuring each different TLEF recipient.

Head and neck surgeons to shine 'blue light' on cancer fight

Quinn Phillips

For the first time ever, a team of Canadian surgeons, which includes two University of Alberta researchers, is collaborating on a study into a technique for the better identification of oral cancer.

Hadi Seikaly and Jeffrey Harris, professors in the Department of Surgery in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, are a part of a pan-Canadian Phase III clinical trial aimed at improving outcomes for patients undergoing surgery for oral squamous cell cancers—a cancer that recurs in 30 per cent of patients.

Surgeons at nine sites across the country will use fluorescence visualization, or "blue light," provided by a hand-held light tool previously used in other cancer treatments. Under the blue light, normal tissues generate a fluorescence, which is absent in tumour or pre-cancerous tissue. The goal of the study is to determine if the fluorescence visualization is able to spare normal healthy tissue from surgery while catching high-risk, pre-cancerous tissues.

Harris says he expects the U of A surgeons will start using the blue light within six months, and is cautiously optimistic this could drastically improve patient care.

"I think that this is an interesting technique that shows promise," said Harris, who got involved while on academic leave in Vancouver. "We look forward to the final study results to see if this technique will provide a significant contribution to cancer care."

Seikaly adds, "This development is very exciting. We hope that it will be very successful and become the model for national co-operation in the field of cancer treatment."

The five-year study is being funded by the Terry Fox Research Institute, a research investment of $4.7 million.

"Our investment in this promising study is our response to a serious clinical concern expressed by head and neck surgeons across Canada," said Victor Ling, president and scientific director of the institute. "It has the potential to change surgical practices for cancer of the mouth nationally and internationally."

Researchers hope to stop heart disease in cancer patients before it starts

Quinn Phillips

Shelley Vigor was diagnosed with breast cancer last year, just four days before Christmas.

She was devastated to hear that even if she survives the cancer, the treatment is hard on her heart and she could also develop cardiovascular disease.

But Vigor and other breast cancer patients have hope, thanks to two people: Ian Paterson, an assistant professor of cardiology in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta and Edith Pituskin, a registered nurse and PhD candidate in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, who are working on a new clinical trial called MANTICORE. The purpose is to put a stop to cardiovascular disease in breast-cancer patients before it starts, and Vigor is one of the participants.

"Our goal is to look at patients diagnosed with cancer and to detect heart disease and risk factors for heart disease sooner than they are currently being recognized, and treat them aggressively," said Paterson. "We're hoping we can prevent heart disease not only during cancer treatment itself, but also after the cancer treatment is done."

Paterson and Pituskin decided to start with breast cancer patients because it is the leading cancer and the leading cause of cancer deaths in women. Treatments have improved drastically over the years, including one drug in particular called Herceptin.

"The drug has been shown to really improve survival rates of some types of breast cancer," said Paterson, who added that the patients they are working with who take Herceptin have an aggressive type of breast cancer. "Unfortunately it can also damage the heart in up to 20 per cent of women taking this drug.

"We're trying to detect signs of injury much more quickly using special blood tests and special imaging tests like an eco-cardiogram and MRI."

The pair will also try to find out if any of the women involved in the study have cardiac risk factors like high blood pressure, and they'll try to treat those very aggressively.

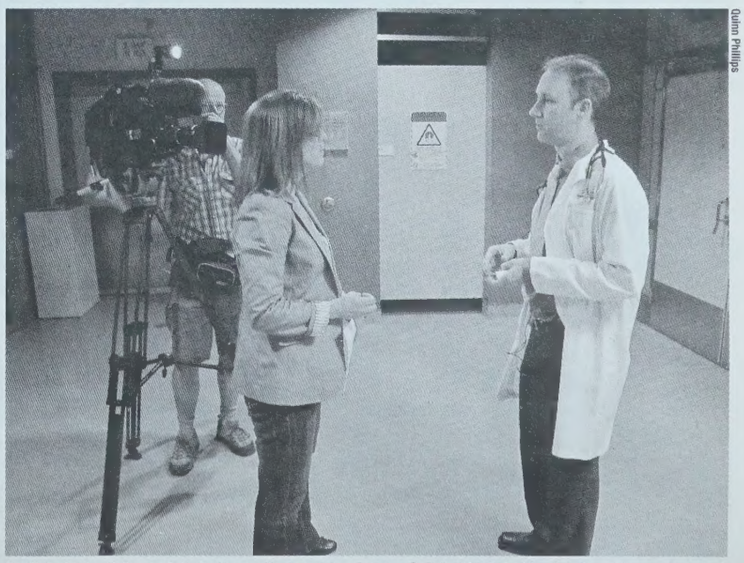
Vigor says its overwhelming thinking about cancer treatment and joining a clinical trial, but she knew she had to do it.

Cardio-oncology is an emerging field of medicine, and he and Pituskin are leading the way, says Paterson. "We're one of the first, and we could serve as a blueprint for other programs," he said, adding that they want to get a number of sites nationally on board with the trials. "Then we'll be able to track outcomes for these patients and develop a registry where we can see how people are doing and whether these clinics make a difference."

And for patients like Vigor, they're pleased this type of work is being done in their hometown.

"Without research and researchers like this team, the prognosis that I would have now would be not as good as it is today," said Vigor. "The opportunity to take part in something like this is very positive for me and I'm very glad to be able to do it."

The researchers conducting the trial want to enrol 159 patients. So far 17 are involved in Edmonton, and the study is adding a centre in Winnipeg and possibly Toronto. The study is being funded by the Alberta Cancer Foundation and Canadian Institutes of Health Research.



Quinn Phillips

Cardiologist Ian Paterson talks to the media June 1 in advance of clinical trials looking into heart disease in breast cancer patients.

Support helps technician grow into position

Michael Brown

staff spotlight

After 25 years working as a technologist in biological sciences at the University of Alberta, Dorothy Fabijan says she can't imagine any place she would rather be.

She counts the energy she receives from the interactions with students, staff and faculty as among her happiest moments but says the top reason for the daily smile on her face is the support she receives from her colleagues.

> "I like that the department recognizes that even though I'm a technical staff, I have research interests."
>
> Dorothy Fabijan

"My department has always been supportive of the ideas or projects I have put forward," said Fabijan, who graduated from the U of A in 1984 with a master's degree in plant taxonomy and is responsible for a myriad of duties in the Department of Biological Sciences, including developing lab exercises for undergraduate students, writing lab manuals, preparing material for labs, preparing the teaching assistants with background information and the technical know-how for the labs and acting as a second line of help for anyone who needs it.

"This position in the bioscience department is not just a job, it is a career, and I like that the department recognizes that even though I'm a technical staff, I have research interests."

Fabijan, who received the 2011 Nat Rutter Outstanding Technician Award from the U of A chapter of Sigma Xi, the scientific research society, is also an assistant curator of the Department of Biological Science's Vascular Plant Herbarium, which is a collection under the umbrella of University of Alberta Museums. In this role, Fabijan oversees the more than 125,000 plant specimens in the collection. Among her main responsibilities with the herbarium is managing the loaning and borrowing of specimens from other institutions around the world, and preparing the use of the herbarium in a dozen or so classes. She is currently nearing the halfway point of building a database for the herbarium, which was started 11 years ago.

"I really love the work," she said. "I think it suits my personality. I like things to be organized."

Fabijan particularly likes the summer, as it gets her outside to continue with some of the collection projects she has going. Also an avid gardener, she volunteers with the Nature Conservancy of Canada by helping catalogue species diversity on conservancy properties. Any collections she makes are kept in her department.

"Besides the herbarium work, I truly enjoy interacting with students. Undergraduates are full of energy and are eager to learn," she said. "Graduate students are also a pleasure to work with; I learn a lot from them. These relationships are stimulating academically and personally. I have made life-long friends as well as colleagues through my association with students.

"I don't know of any other work environment like a university, where every day can be such a learning experience."

Supplied

Dorothy Fabijan volunteers with the Nature Conservancy of Canada by helping catalogue species diversity on conservancy property.

Mother Nature's nightlights

A view of the fluorescent minerals display in the Mineralogy and Petrology Museum, open Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the basement of the Earth Sciences Building. Due to the presence of certain trace elements, these minerals emit visible light when illuminated with invisible ultraviolet light. (Photo by Michael Davies-Venn)

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Composting for a greener Augustana campus

Christopher Thrall

This summer, the U of A's Augustana Campus will take another step towards sustainability with an in-vessel composting system. The four feet by 30 feet steel drum, rotated by a single one-horsepower motor, will divert 150 litres of organic waste per day—50 to 70 tonnes per year—from the landfill.

"It's a logical next step," says outgoing Augustana dean Roger Epp. "Through our recycling program, we've taken a huge jump in reducing waste that we generated in the past year—more than 50 per cent, which I think is an amazing number. The composter will take that down a whole lot more."

According to Candice Tremblay, sustainability co-ordinator for Augustana Campus, the goal for the composter initiative is to offset the organics on campus. "Of the waste produced on campus," explains Tremblay, "65 per cent is organic, and 80 per cent of that comes from the cafeteria. In our first year, we will divert all of the cafeteria waste, and the second year we will aim for the rest of campus."

The steel drum rotates all day, with its speed based on the quantity and humidity of material. The organic materials are oxygenated—the rotation accelerating the reactions—and produce their own heat as they decompose. Everything from vegetable peels to table scraps goes in one end. Two weeks later, fine compost pours out the other end.

An annual estimate of almost 20 tonnes of compost will be put to use on campus to assist various landscaping projects, eliminating any reliance on chemical fertilizers, which have not been used on campus for nearly a decade.

There are educational opportunities with the composter as well. Chemistry students will experiment with ideal carbon-based bulking agents, and management students will develop strategies to expand the program.

"This is an exciting development for us," says Epp, "consistent with the direction we've set on focused and deliberate sustainability measures." The project is supported by the university's Office of Sustainability as well as by support from a private donor. "We are taking the call to achieve sustainability in our operations very seriously," says Epp. "If others can learn from what we do, this is good. We are always willing to share our experiences and learning."

Supplied

Augustana students sort trash during a Campus Waste Audit in fall 2010 as part of Sustainability Week.

Summer space camp reaches new heights

Brian Murphy

School kids attending the University of Alberta's space camp this summer will be helping NASA confirm the reliability of atmospheric monitoring equipment bound for a space mission.

The junior high-school kids will work with U of A graduate students who designed a piece of equipment that monitors space storms, huge electrical disturbances beyond Earth's atmosphere that can disable orbiting satellites. The device will be launched on a giant balloon by NASA this fall in New Mexico.

U of A grad student and project organizer Laura Mazzino says this mission is the real deal.

"The NASA balloon stands five storeys high; it's 3330,000 cubic metres in size and goes up to 27 kilometres above Earth," said Mazzino. The balloon stays aloft for about 20 hours before it's remotely detonated and falls by parachute to the desert.

> "This is a great opportunity for kids interested in space to see testing for a real NASA mission for themselves."
>
> Laura Mazzino

"Kids in both of our five-day camps will take part in the tests using small weather balloons that we launch right here on the U of A campus," said Mazzino. "The whole space storm monitoring device weighs 20 kilograms, so we'll just be testing its smaller components."

And just like the space-camp weather balloon launched at last summer's camp, there will be a camera onboard recording the launch to an altitude of 30 kilometres. A GPS unit included in the payload will help locate the downed balloon on the outskirts of the city. Mazzino says the wear and tear of the weather-balloon launch and the hard landing will be a good test for the durability of the sensitive solar storm monitoring equipment.

"This is a great opportunity for kids interested in space to see testing for a real NASA mission for themselves," said Mazzino. In addition to launching weather balloons the space campers will build and launch model rockets and get some hands-on time with real meteorites from deep space.

The five-day camps are run by the U of A's Institute for Space Science Exploration and are designed for kids in Grades 7 to 9. The camps run Monday to Friday the weeks of July 4 and 11.

StageLab to emphasize innovation in theatre

Folio staff

A new summer arts festival that emphasizes innovation in theatre will hit Edmonton this June.

Presented by the University of Alberta's Department of Drama in partnership with FEST and the Canadian Centre for Theatre Creation, and generously sponsored by the Timms Theatre Innovation Fund, the new event, StageLab, will run June 10–29 at the Timms Centre for the Arts. The festival features productions and readings of new work by Canadian playwrights and will be the end result of collaborative creation between department faculty members and other artists.

"The drama department at the University of Alberta is privileged to have some of the most talented practising theatre artists in the country on its faculty," said Kathleen Weiss, chair of the department. "StageLab showcases the creative activity of our faculty in a professional setting and creates a unique context to share innovative ideas about theatre."

StageLab will also reinforce the mandate of the Canadian Centre for Theatre Creation to develop new work for the Canadian stage. While experimenting with ideas surrounding play creation, the CCTC facilitates dramaturgy that embraces innovative uses of media and interdisciplinary arts. The centre also displays a commitment to reflecting Canada's diversity in its choices and to co-producing new work with partners like StageLab.

Festival events include showcase readings of two new plays, *Life Without Secrets and Stalker: The Musical*; workshops and performances as part of FEST; and *Vice Versa*, a clown show facilitated by Mike Kennard of Mump & Smoot fame. Forming the nucleus of StageLab are three fully-staged productions:

- *Jane Austen, Action Figure . . .* and other short plays by Elaine Avila: This collection ranges from the zany to the tragic and examines whether it takes superpowers to be a parent, traveler, lover . . . or Jane Austen. (June 15–19)
- *Seasons* by Jane Heather: A bipolar woman and a girl living on the streets scrape by in the inner city. Based on the true stories of Edmontonians struggling to make a life on the margins. (June 15–19)
- *The Cave Painter* by Don Hannah: The world premiere of this one-woman show deals with grief and where we put it in order to continue on with our lives. (June 23–26)

All productions will be presented at the Second Playing Space at the Timms Centre for the Arts. Tickets are $10 and will be available at the box office at 780-492-2495. Some events are free. For more information, visit www.drama.ualberta.ca/StageLabFestival.aspx or email StageLab.uofa@gmail.com.

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Researcher receives grant to look at how sleep affects a child's brain development

Raquel Maurier

A researcher with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry has been awarded national funding to study how sleep affects neurological development right from birth.

Piush Mandhane, professor in the Department of Pediatrics and the study's principal investigator, has received a five-year, $300,000 grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to help support his overall research, including this sleep study. So far, about 500 Edmonton-area children have been recruited for the study and Mandhane would like to find another 500.

"The broader picture is to follow those families and children to look at how sleep in early childhood affects long-term growth and development," says Mandhane. "For example, the classic problem is the toddler who doesn't want to sleep. We all struggle with a baby who continues to wake up multiple times a night. What we don't know is how that impacts their long-term growth and development. At what point do we say, 'That's not enough sleep,' or 'That's too bad and we need to do something about it.'"

Pediatric sleep problems are very common and affect up to 15 per cent of children, says Mandhane, who is a pediatric pulmonologist—a doctor who specializes in pediatric sleep and breathing problems.

Mandhane and his research team will look at length of sleep, quality of sleep and sleep problems such as sleep apnea, insomnia and behavioural issues such as toddlers not wanting to go to bed. Examining how early sleep problems occur, the severity of sleep problems and how long sleep problems last, will also be part of the analysis.

Families taking part in the study will fill out quarterly questionnaires and then participate in in-home sleep studies using a portable monitoring device for their children at ages one, three and five so researchers can monitor breathing, heart rate and oxygen levels. Children will also undergo annual neurodevelopmental tests where they will play with various objects, such as blocks or bells, so researchers can observe the children's skills in areas like language, social development and verbal communication.

"Ultimately, the hope for the project is that, if we can identify what is healthy sleep, we'll be able to translate those findings back to the Canadian public and say here's some ideas on when you should consider you need more help with child sleep," says Mandhane.

Rebecca Harris's daughter, Ainsley, is 17 months old and has been part of the study since she was a newborn.

"I wanted to take part in the study because I like the fact that as a new mom I could have it as a resource for myself," said Rebecca.

The sleep study is part of the Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development, or CHILD study, a national project involving 5,000 children born in different parts of the country who will be followed until the age of five. The purpose of the larger study is to examine how environmental factors affect children's health. Any families interested in taking part in the sleep study should call 780-407-8084.

Raquel Maurier

Piush Mandhane has received a five-year, $300,000 grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to help support his sleep study.

Student's memory lives on through a pair of campus fundraisers

Folio Staff

The death of student-athlete Owen Schlosser to cancer two years ago still resonates on the University of Alberta campus. Across two faculties, fundraising events have been created to honour the 22-year-old student who was an "outstanding young tennis player" and, to David Chapman and his peers in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, a good friend.

"[His diagnosis and death four months later] was a difficult time for our group of friends," said Chapman, a master's student in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. "It was the first time we ever experienced anything like that."

Chapman and friends decided to keep Schlosser's memory alive by putting on a fundraiser for an endowed research chair in skin cancer. On June 4 they hosted the second annual three-on-three street hockey tournament.

The money raised from the tournament will go towards the Mary Johnston Chair in Melanoma Research at the Cross Cancer Institute. Another portion of the funds goes to the Owen Schlosser Endowment Fund through the Edmonton Community Foundation to support underprivileged athletes.

"I think this is definitely an event that he would have loved to participate in so that's one of the reasons why I'm doing it," said Chapman. "He was a great athlete and a really healthy guy too, so I think an event that promotes healthy living—I think he'd be pretty happy about that."

And, on what may have been one of the windiest weekends in Edmonton's history, more than 125 competitors participated in mid-May in the first Owen Schlosser World Team Tennis Tournament,in support of the Owen Schlosser Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The tournament was organized by Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation doctoral student Camilla Knight, an avid competitive tennis player, and Saville Community Sport Centre's tennis coach Carson Bell.

"As a member of the Golden Bears tennis team, head coach of the Golden Bears summer tennis camps and a part-time coach at the Saville Community Sports Centre, Owen had an enormous influence on the Edmonton tennis community and everyone who was fortunate enough to know him," said Bell. "We felt that when someone has such a positive impact on so many they deserve to be remembered, so we set about organizing and hosting a tennis tournament in Owen's name."

"The event was a massive success," said Knight. "We'd hoped to make $10,000 but we actually ended up with $12,000." Funds will support a scholarship to provide financial assistance to players on the Golden Bears and Pandas tennis teams. "With the help of this scholarship, tennis at the U of A will continue to go from strength to strength and in Owen's memory, the Bears and Pandas hope to become the dominant university tennis team in Canada," said Knight.

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Art exhibition creates dialogue, raises awareness on 'silent loss'

Michael Davies-Venn

University of Alberta art and design student Emma McLay was a year from finishing her undergraduate degree when doctors found a medical condition that had the potential to threaten her fertility. She and her husband decided to become pregnant earlier than planned—a decision that resulted in a series of complicated miscarriages but eventually the birth of the young couple's first child.

The experiences took her to the Lois Hole Hospital for Women, and it is to women working at the hospital that she dedicates her master's of fine arts in painting thesis show, *Membryonics*, which runs at the FAB Gallery until June 11.

"I owe the women at that hospital my life. This show would not be without them, nor would my daughter," McLay said. "I went through numerous miscarriages and complications. During the last miscarriage, I accepted counseling from the hospital. This was good because I was already in a state of depression from previous loss. These caregivers have saved many lives from being consumed or ended by depression and grief, including my own. They provided me refuge where I could grieve without judgment and gave me tools to cope."

McLay says she hopes the exhibition contributes to a conversation about the silence, lack of empathy and misunderstanding around reproductive difficulties, and hopes that it helps change public perception on infant and pregnancy loss.

"The way people in our culture react to the families left behind is often insensitive and uneducated," said McLay. "The experience and pain women go through during miscarriages or infant loss is different for everyone, and nobody outside of that individual experience is equipped or qualified to judge how much grief or healing is required.

"With support, parents can learn to carry the memory of their babies, but they need that loss to be respected. I met many women who were feeling incredibly alone and unsupported; not just women, but parents, partners and husbands suffer too."

The exhibit deconstructs perceptions of the female body, especially during reproductive processes, through eight works, each of which reveals a different layer of vulnerability.

"I have thought of my own body as a monument, impenetrable with definable boundaries," said McLay, "but emotional and physical trauma—in my case related to bearing children—takes away that idea."

McLay says the paintings start very contained and show very clear boundaries around the body. Those boundaries begin to open to the point where, towards the end, two pieces flow out to the floor.

"They have no control as they flow right into the viewer's space," said McLay. "The body is no longer acting as a vessel or container of the self."

The exhibition also addresses questions about female identity, such as whether a woman who has had a miscarriage is a mother.

"With a miscarriage, [some] women feel like they've become a mother and yet they have no child to hold," said McLay. "That's a very strange place to be in your identity because I felt like a mother, but I was not fulfilling that role—I was left empty."

McLay says her experiences around pregnancy have changed her. "I'm certainly more mature, and at the same time, I'm more understanding and aware and empathetic," she said.

"It comes down to human empathy. People need to be kinder and more understanding of people who experience these difficulties. There's a lot that needs to be done on this silent loss and much of it has to come from public awareness."

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Membyonics runs at the FAB Gallery until June 11.

2011 Spring Convocation

A star on the track and in the classroom

Richard Cairney

It's no secret that the U of A engineering program is challenging. Students need to be creative, apply new knowledge and work together to reach new levels of academic achievement in order to complete the nationally accredited programs.

But they need to balance academics with other activities. It's hard to know how Amanda Schneck, who is graduating with a grade point average of "3.7 or 3.8" on a scale of four, managed to squeeze so many extracurricular activities into her five-year materials engineering-biomedical co-op program.

Schneck attributes it to good time management. During her first year of engineering she became involved with student clubs and joined the Pandas track and field team. As the years passed, she became more involved and committed to academics, sports and student life.

"I didn't watch television as an undergraduate," she said, although she admits that for some people, TV is the perfect way to unwind. Schneck just chose a different activity. Every day after classes, without fail, she trained for the Pandas track and field team. For the past three years, she has been team captain.

That dedication paid off: she broke team records in pentathlon six times in the past two years—four times this season alone. She won bronze at the CIS national track championships this spring, turning in personal bests in hurdles, high jump and the 800-metre run. She was named the U of A's Female Academic All-Canadian of the year.

In student activities, she was recently awarded the Shell Canada Limited Scholarship in Engineering, based on academic standing and involvement in extracurricular activities.

> "I didn't watch television as an undergraduate."
>
> Amanda Schneck

As a co-op program student, Schneck completed four paid-work placements, including a research job on campus helping to develop new biomedical materials for stints, and with the Enbridge facilities integrity group. The latter placement, she says, is where she began to hit her stride as an engineer.

"They really gave me a lot of responsibilities. If I was willing to do something, they'd give it to me. My role grew and I felt respected as more than a student—I felt more like a colleague," she said.

Naturally, she hopes to join Enbridge full time later this year. But for now, she's training for the national track and field championships, competing with Edmonton's Veolo Athletics Club. And she's relishing the opportunity to pursue one of her passions with no distractions.

"I have to admit that sometimes track suffered because I was studying for mid-term exams," said Schneck. "And there were instances where I didn't get to study for a test because I was on the road competing all weekend."

So in the end, she did learn about balance. But there's more.

"With the Pandas and the Engineering Students Society, I learned a lot about group work and communication, about planning and executing things, how to organize tasks and how things work or don't work in terms of co-ordinating and planning events," she said.

As a co-ordinator and associate vice-president with the Engineering Students Society and captain of the track and field team, Schneck knows the path to success: "I think communication skills are the key to success. When you see things go bad there's always lack of communication."

Supplied

Amanda Schneck attributes her ability to succeed academically and in athletics to strong time-management skills.

Multi-faceted grad wins academic medal

Christopher Thrall

Odessa Sherbaniuk has been committed to saving the world since she was five years old. This spring convocation, Sherbaniuk received her bachelor of arts degree in global and development studies—and the Augustana Medal for the highest academic standing.

Odessa Sherbaniuk

"When I started at Augustana, I didn't know what I wanted to do," said the Round Hill native and graduate of Bawlf School, adding that all she knew when she started at Augustana was she wanted to save the world. "I found out after four years that you can't save the world—or maybe that the world doesn't need saving."

Sherbaniuk's ideas of travelling to a developing country to fix things evolved as she learned to appreciate local knowledge. "People are quite capable of looking after themselves," she said, "and an issue affecting a community can be best solved with the first-hand knowledge and expertise of the people in the community."

Furthermore, Sherbaniuk says, development doesn't simply cover actions around the world; there is a lot of work that can be done in Canada, and in Camrose.

While maintaining her position on the dean's list for her grades, Sherbaniuk completed a community service-learning certificate involving 50 hours of volunteer activity and a course dedicated to CSL theory, as well as an international exchange with a Mexican community and a three-week trip to study economics and religion in India.

Sherbaniuk bases her success on being invested in the experience at Augustana, where her father is also an alumnus. "It's not just completing assignments, but actually applying the learning in your life. What you put into it is directly related to what you get out of it. Education requires time and effort to get a positive learning experience."

After receiving her degree, Sherbaniuk will spend the rest of the summer completing a Rural Capacity Internship Program with Augustana's Learning and Beyond office and the Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities, then consider another internship in Guatemala for four to six months with Sahakarini, a local development agency.

"After that—who knows?" she says. "The possibilities seem endless."

PhD graduates with a degree that is one of a kind

Bev Betkowski

Leanna Parker thought she'd grow up to be a scientist, pure and simple, working with microscopes and test tubes.

Instead, she's garnered a cutting-edge degree from the University of Alberta that is not only a proud first for the Faculty of Native Studies but also represents a new way of blending science and sociology.

Parker convocates with an interdisciplinary PhD in environmental sociology and native studies. The degree makes her the first graduate student to convocate in the Faculty of Native Studies with the only degree of its kind currently offered in Canada.

Earned jointly through Native Studies and the Department of Rural Economy in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, Parker's parchment pushes social and natural sciences out of their respective boxes and into a rapidly changing world.

Leanna Parker (Photo supplied)

"It's becoming difficult to separate the two fields, especially in the area of native studies, where contemporary resource management is a leading issue for Aboriginals," said Parker.

From her days as an undergrad at the U of A, Parker's career as a scholar has focused entirely on native studies, in particular how the identity of indigenous people has been shaped by traditional and contemporary economies—from the fur trade of yesteryear to resource extraction today.

Parker is exploring the complex challenge faced by Aboriginal people: living on the land, which is made more difficult by resource extraction, and the need for a good wage, which is made possible by that same resource-based economy.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in 1995, Parker was among the first students to earn a master's degree from the University of Saskatchewan's Department of Native Studies. She then taught for five years at Aurora College in the Northwest Territories. Living in the community of Fort Smith, Parker was able to see first hand the complexities of land-claim negotiations and resource management issues from an Aboriginal perspective.

"It was only through being in the community that I saw the background. As much as we try to boil down these situations to black and white, it is far more complex and inter-related."

Her interest in Aboriginal issues began early in life through her father's duties as a social worker on Aboriginal reserves in the Calgary area, where she grew up. "My school lessons taught me that Indians were part of the past, but through my dad's work, I knew it to be otherwise."

Parker loved teaching college, but missed conducting research, so made her way back to the U of A for doctoral studies in 2003, drawn by the work of Frank Tough, a former University of Saskatchewan professor who had moved to the U of A, and who was conducting his own research into Métis economic history.

Through research for her doctoral thesis, Parker found that while the Aboriginal traditional economy has changed over hundreds of years of contact with non-Aboriginals, "it is still reflective of an Aboriginal identity." Applying that concept to contemporary resource management is the next logical step, Parker believes.

"We have to start looking more seriously at what indigenous knowledge and management practices have to offer industry."

Parker is proud to be the first graduate student in the Faculty of Native Studies and hopes that field of study continues to grow. "We need to shift the relationship between non-Aboriginals and Aboriginals in this country by expanding the minds of the general public, and the university is a great place to do that."

Convocation schedule

June 5 (Camrose)

2:30 p.m. Augustana Campus, Convocation Centre. Honorary Degree: Craig Kielburger.

June 7

3 p.m. Engineering, Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium. Honorary Degree: Ron Triffo.

June 8

10 a.m. Arts (Last names starting with A-K). Honorary Degree: Joe Schlesinger.

3 p.m. Arts (Last names starting with L-Z). Honorary Degree: Palagummi Sainath.

June 9

10 a.m. Education (secondary, adult, diplomas only); Physical Education and Recreation. Honorary Degree: Louise Hayes.

3 p.m. Education (Elementary degrees only).

June 10

10 a.m. Graduate Studies and Research (doctor of philosophy, doctor of education, and doctor of music degrees only); Medicine & Dentistry. Honorary Degree: Austin Mardon.

3 p.m. Extension.

June 13

3 p.m. Graduate Studies and Research (master's degrees and post-graduate diplomas only); Rehabilitation Medicine (master's degrees only); School of Public Health (master's degrees only). Honorary Degree: Bunny Ferguson.

June 14

10 a.m. Business. Honorary Degree: John Chin Sung Lau.

3 p.m. Nursing; Campus Saint-Jean. Honorary Degree: Karen Luker.

June 15

10 a.m. Science (general degrees only); Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences; Native Studies. Honorary Degree: Charlie Kakotok Evalik.

3 p.m. Law; Science (honours and specialization degrees only). Honorary Degree: Efim Zelmanov.

news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Record snowpack poses threat

Uldis Silins, professor of forest hydrology in the Department of Renewable Resources, is part of a team reporting that the southern Rockies had the highest snowpack on record at the end of May.

Measurements, which have been collected from between 17 to 42 years depending on the station, are taken from "snow pillows," an electronic device that continually weighs the liquid in the snowpack and transmits the data. From this information, they can see how the snowpack is moving and its weight as it melts. There are five southern stations set up to measure snow pillows, including Allison Pass, Gardiner Creek south of Blairmore, Akamina Pass in Waterton, and two in Montana.

Silins said Alberta Environment takes a manual measurement in March and then begins issuing seasonal flow forecasts. This year, the snowpack continued to increase with another 30-40 per cent added since March. Measurements at the end of May showed a snowpack "quite above average," leading experts to predict a much higher flow for the headwaters.

"The average for the region from these five pillows is 541 millimetres of snow water equivalent (how much water is contained in the snowpack)," said Silins, who has been leading the Southern Rockies Watershed Project since January 2004. "This year, the average for these same five pillows is 940 mm—around 175 per cent more than average."

The positive side is there is likely to be a good water supply, he said. The rest is dependent on Mother Nature and what kind of spring the area experiences. So far, said Silins, there has been a cool spring and the melt has been delayed. Rivers that usually peak towards the end of May or early June will be significantly delayed. The worst scenario is if the typical early summer thunderstorms with a lot of rain occur at the same time as temperatures start to climb. "High river flows particularly in headwaters of smaller streams and even side valleys coming off the Crowsnest River could be dangerous for people."

Engineering education bears fruit

Tanya Herbert is participating in an overseas fellowship in Ghana this summer though the U of A's chapter of Engineers Without Borders, but she makes one thing perfectly clear: "I am not going to Africa to save people."

A fourth-year electrical engineering student, Herbert knows what she is and isn't capable of and she understands that one person can only have so much impact.

"I'm not going there to build a school—I'm not capable of building a school."

What she will do is work with a fruit processing firm to "learn as much as I can about how they do things and what barriers and opportunities there are for more investments," she said.

Herbert became involved with EWB in a round-about way, first going to chapter events that sounded like they'd be fun—but when she learned more about the group's projects and the way it works to help improve lives from an evidence-based position, she was hooked.

"I learned that EWB does things in a really informed way and I thought that was really neat. With EWB, everyone is trying their best to do work that will actually help people and to be smart about how they do it.

"I found it really resonated with my own values."

McLuhan honoured at media conference

From June 23–26, delegates from across the globe will be on campus to attend the 12th annual convention of the Media Ecology Association. This will mark the first time this international convention has been held in Canada. The theme of the event, "Space, Place and the McLuhan Legacy," reflects the University of Alberta's yearlong centenary celebration of the birth of influential scholar and public figure Marshall McLuhan in Edmonton, Alberta on July 21, 1911. The detailed schedule of sessions and registration information is found at http://mea2011.org.

Professor emeritus honoured

Bob Hinings, professor emeritus in the Alberta School of Business, received an honorary degree from the Université de Montréal on May 27. Hinings' work in the 1960s and 1970s won him worldwide recognition in the fields of organizational structure, power and change. Although he officially retired in 2002, Hinings remains a keen researcher and is working on reforms in the health-care sector and on organizational change in general, among other projects. He is a member of the Royal Society of Canada, a Fellow of the U.S. Academy of Management and an honorary member of the European Group for Organizational Studies.

"Bob's contributions to the school are widespread, not only in the area of organizational research, but also as a valued mentor and friend to many. We are proud of his accomplishments and congratulate him on this honour," said Alberta School of Business Dean Mike Percy.

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Summer job in lab pays more than the bills

Quinn Phillips

Quinn Phillips

First-year University of Alberta medical student uses previous summer lab experience to win prestigious poster-presentation awards normally reserved for grad students.

Jennifer Lo's early interest in cardiology got her into the lab, and a pair of high-profile research awards has spurred this medical student to pursue her passion.

Lo, who just finished her first year of medical school at the University of Alberta, recently won the National Student Research Forum Award for Best Poster Presentation in two categories: physiology and cardiology. This forum draws students from all of North America and is mainly composed of master's and PhD students.

"Winning this award was definitely a big surprise, and it's very rewarding to have this opportunity," said Lo, who plans to be a cardiologist when she graduates. "It was a really good experience to go to the conference and have a chance to look at all the other fields in medicine."

Lo is starting her third summer in the lab. She has been working with Gavin Oudit, a professor and cardiologist in the Department of Medicine, and Zamaneh Kassiri, a professor in the Department of Physiology. Lo's research has helped show that an enzyme, called TACE, acts like a scissor in the heart during heart failure. It cuts a protein called ACE II, which is instrumental in protecting the heart muscle. Now that researchers know TACE plays a major part in heart failure, they'll test their theory on human samples, and this work could lead to a new drug treatment.

"This is a 'molecule-to-patient' project that Jennifer has accomplished over several summers," said Oudit. "We started looking at the molecule and then went on to cells, and we've done some work in animal models. Now we have the chance to look at heart-failure samples from patients."

Oudit couldn't be happier for his summer student and the medical field. It can only mean good things that a young scientist and future doctor is already making such big strides, he says.

"The irony is that we currently need clinician-scientists more than ever," said Oudit. "The early involvement in research allows medical students to explore their full potential and often brings early success."

Lo says she is thinking about doing the MD/PhD program, which allows students to obtain both an MD degree and a PhD degree and prepares them for a career as a clinician-scientist.

She still has time to make the decision. Until then, the summer research student, who is supported by the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and the Alberta Innovates– Health Solutions Summer Studentship program, will continue work in Oudit's lab and further develop her knowledge.

"Without the research, we won't be able to get new drugs or new understanding of how everything works in the body," said Lo.

Continuing Ed online registration now available on Bear Tracks

Folio Staff

As of May 30, Faculty of Extension Continuing Education online registration is now available on Bear Tracks.

All users of Bear Tracks will notice a new "Continuing Education" menu. This will allow all university students and staff to search for and register into continuing education classes offered by the Faculty of Extension. Prospective students can search and register for classes offered by the Faculty of Extension. Continuing Education fall and winter courses will be open for registration on June 15.

On April 4, Faculty of Extension programs and student records were moved into PeopleSoft Campus Solutions.

classified ads

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Recent speech grad turns pro fitness athlete

Jeff Morris

Crystal Heck may be a tough fitness competitor, but the University of Alberta pathology student wasn't afraid to shed a tear when she was announced as the winner at the 2011 Canadian Natural Physique Championships in Quebec.

"When my name was announced, the tears just started flowing. I felt on top of the world," says the final year master of speech-language pathology student from the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine. "I had just accomplished in three years what many bodybuilding and fitness athletes may work at for 10 to 15 years and still not achieve. I will remember that day and the way I felt for the rest of my life."

Heck placed first in both the Fitness Short and Overall Fitness categories, and received her fitness Pro Card from the International Federation of Body Building, one of only two fitness Pro Cards handed out each year in Canada.

Heck competed for the first time at the 2008 Northern Alberta Bodybuilding Championships and placed first in her height category. Heck credits the president of the Alberta Bodybuilding Association, David Leung, with inspiring her to commit to the sport. "David told me that I had a lot of potential and that I should stick with it."

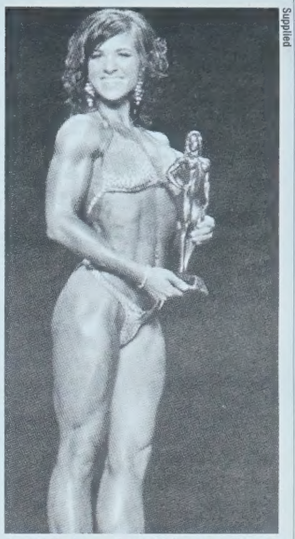
Growing up an active child in Edgerton, the competitive spirit was ever-present in Heck. That competitive drive is what drew her to fitness competitions as a college student. Throughout her success as an emerging fitness professional, her sights remained set on the speech-language pathology program at the U of A. Heck enrolled and began working on her master's degree in 2009.

The first half of 2011 has been a whirlwind of success for Heck. After getting married in January, the newlywed trained in Mexico during her honeymoon before writing her master's certification exam a mere seven days prior to winning the championship in Laval, Quebec.

Heck enjoys her new status as a professional athlete but her career ambitions remain the same. "I am interested in personal training and I enjoy helping people in my free time, but my true career passion is to work as a speech pathologist."

She is now gearing up for the next phase of her competitive career. "My trainers have convinced me to compete and make my professional debut at the Toronto Pro Super Show in June.

"It is an amazing opportunity to step onto a Pro Stage and get my name out there."



Supplied

Crystal Heck won the 2011 Canadian Natural Physique Championships in Quebec.

> "When my name was announced, the tears just started flowing. I felt on top of the world."
>
> Crystal Heck

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on Express News at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until June 24

The Last Best West: Glimpses of the Prairie Provinces from the Golden Age of Postcards. This exhibition of postcards is from the settlement and urbanization of the Canadian Northwest. The Peel's Prairie Provinces postcard collection contains thousands of fascinating and informative images, including personalized views of first houses, farms and family groups, as well as important events, disasters and buildings. Admission is free. Exhibition catalogues are available for $25. Noon–4:30 p.m. Lower level, South Rutherford Library.

June 5 & 12

Opera NUOVA Presents: Masterclass Series and Intro Into Opera. This series offers the public an opportunity to see the work it takes to become a great singer. For more information go to www.vocalartsfestival.ca

June 6

CIHR Overview. Greg Huyer, deputy director, knowledge creation programs at Canadian Institutes of Health Research, will be providing details to researchers about how to apply to CIHR, how the peer review process works, etc. 10:30–11:30 a.m. Education South 106 Education Centre, North & South. To register go to http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=5132

June 7

Compassion and Care. The John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre invites you to attend a one-day symposium on compassion and care. 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 5th Floor, Stollery Executive Development Centre, Alberta School of Business.

Women's Words: Fantastic Faculty Reading. Come and hear readings by instructors of Women's Words: Summer Writing Week. Organized by Greenwoods' Bookshoppe and Calgary Spoken Word Society Tickets: $5 per person available at the door. 7:30–9 p.m. The Artery Aberhart Centre.

June 8

"SEE the research at work" Seminar Series. Geo-environmental engineering professor Ania Ulrich Fate will be on hand to present "Transport of Process Affected Water in Out-of-Pit Tailings Ponds in the Oil Sands Industry in Canada." With proven oil reserves of 174 billion barrels and producing approximately 1 million barrels of oil per day, the oilsands industry is rapidly expanding in the northern Athabasca region of Alberta. It was estimated in 2008, that 720 million cubic metres of fluid fine tailings were stored in the Athabasca oilsands region. A challenge faced in the design of out-of-pit tailings ponds is the presence of regionally occurring buried sand channels that may act as preferential flow paths of PA water seepage. Noon–1:30 p.m. Stollery Executive Development Centre, Room 5-40. Alberta School of Business.

June 9

National Film Board presents "McLuhan's Wake." Marshall McLuhan's intellectual and cultural contributions are explored in this film. 6:30 p.m., Stanley Milner Library Theatre, Churchill Square. Admission is free. 6:30 p.m.

Media vs. Reality: Free Markets and Farmers' Suicides. Palagummi Sainath, one of the U of A's 2011 honorary degree recipients and one of the world's foremost experts on poverty and hunger, will discuss issues of rural poverty in India, as well international development issues and the ways in which all of us play a role. 7:30 p.m. 150 TELUS Centre.

June 10

Campus Sustainability Tour. Witness first hand some of the innovative sustainability features on campus. Everyone is welcome to attend this 1.5-hour glimpse into the efforts the U of A is making to reduce its ecological impact. The tour starts at 2-06 North Powerplant and continues on a walking tour of campus. 3–4:30 p.m. 2-06 North Power Plant.

June 15

Looking at Winning Theme 1 CIHR Open Operating Grant Competition Applications. Three theme 1 applications that ranked at the top of their committee in the CIHR OOGC will be examined during this session to help us identify the characteristics of winning applications. To register go to http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=5079 10:30–11:55 a.m. 2J2.14 University of Alberta Hospital (Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre).

Applying for SSHRC Insight Grants Program – Videoconference. This video conference will cover the new Insight Grants Program which replaces the Standard Research Grants Program. 12:30–2:30 p.m. Room 134 TELUS Centre. To register go to http://rsoregistration.ualberta.ca/CourseDescription.do?courseid=5086

June 16

President's Staff Appreciation Picnic. In recognition of contributions made by U of A Staff, President Indira Samarasekera will host her annual staff appreciation picnic. 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Main Quad Alumni Walk. http://www.president.ualberta.ca/2011PresidentStaffAppreciationPicnic

Birds of a feather

Exhibit curator Merle Patchett installs "Fashioning Feathers" at the FAB Gallery. The exhibit explores the complex geographies of collection, production and consumption behind the making of such feather fashions. The exhibit runs until June 11.

(Photos by Andriko Lozowy)

Making Tracks
On Campus

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 2
Wishing upon a star
University opens new observatory

Page 4
The Open Door
Rethinking global university rankings

Page 6
Staff Spotlight
Putting the 'yes' in TEC Edmonton

Volume 48 Issue 21 | July 15, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

Chemistry professor presents on solar panel to royal couple

Wanda Vivequin

On July 8, University of Alberta chemistry professor and NINT scholar Jillian Buriak was given the chance to show off her research into low-cost solar panels to the royal couple during their final hours in Canada.

When did you find out you would be presenting to the royal couple?

I got a call in May from the Office of the Vice-President (External) at the U of A asking if I was available on July 8 and not much more. I then got an email two weeks later from the chief of staff of the minister of the environment, Robert Renner, who incidentally was a student I taught and is a U of A graduate. The chief of staff, Jeff Kasbrick, explained to me then that I would be presenting to the duke and duchess during their visit to Calgary about the research we do in the "Buriak and Brett Groups."

How did you feel about being selected?

I was really excited to be asked as it was so soon after the royal wedding and everyone was talking about "Kate and William." I was actually a bit nervous to be honest. There were going to be four of us presenting for three minutes each.

Where was the event?

The event was held at the Enmax Centre in the Calgary Zoo. It's an incredible venue.

What kind of coaching did you get in royal protocol?

There was not a lot of coaching but it was great to have Jeff Kasbrick to have to go over the questions with about the event and what was expected. He was really helpful in the lead up to the event.

What project did you them introduce to?

I presented a poster on the research we do into the production of more

Continued on page 3

Penguin philosopher king

Michael Davies-Venn

A penguin dropped by the Department of Philosophy-run Eurekamp! July 5.

University's impact on city clear at Salute to Excellence

Michael Brown

Chorale Saint-Jean led a strong University of Alberta contingent, which included four current and former professors, at Edmonton's 60th annual Salute to Excellence Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on June 14 at the Winspear Centre for Music.

The Salute to Excellence honours Edmontonians who have contributed to the diverse fabric of the city by inducting them into three halls of fame: community service, sports, and arts and culture.

"Congratulations to all the recent inductees and award winners," said President Indira Samarasekera. "I am very proud of the Chorale Saint-Jean and the four University of Alberta professors who were recognized at this event. Our presence at the Salute to Excellence speaks to the U of A's impact within Edmonton, as well as our commitment to engage with the greater community."

The Campus Saint-Jean-based choir, which has been the inspirational musical voice of the francophone community in Western Canada since 1937, received the Edmonton Cultural Hall of Fame Award of Distinction. This award is granted to a group or person whose journey entails such a unique contribution to community spirit as to merit an award that stands apart.

Edward (Ted) Blodgett, famed poet and professor emeritus of comparative literature, who taught at the U of A and Campus Saint-Jean for 34 years and for the past year held the Louis Desrochers Chair in Canadian Studies, was inducted into Edmonton's Arts and Culture Hall of Fame, as were two Faculty of Arts professors Catherine Burgess and Jan Selman.

> "Our presence at the Salute to Excellence speaks to the U of A's impact within Edmonton, as well as our commitment to engage with the greater community."
>
> Indira Samarasekera

A winner of the Governor General's Award for poetry in 1996, Blodgett is renowned for his work in both English and French. He has had 17 books of poetry published, and six of literary criticism. Blodgett was Edmonton's Poet Laureate from 2007 to 2009, a period when he produced memorable poems for the Louise McKinney Park public art project. He also served as chair of the board of the Edmonton Arts Council.

Since graduating from the U of A in 1975, Burgess, a sculpture professor, has had more than 25 solo exhibitions. She has participated in more than 60 group exhibitions in Canada, the United States and Great Britain.

For more than 35 years, Selman has been a groundbreaking leader in theatre. Her style of popular theatre has given voice to those less fortunate, including marginalized community groups, prison inmates, sexual assault victims and First Nations citizens. Selman just completed 10 years as chair in the Department of Drama at the U of A, and was recently awarded the U of A Excellence in Leadership Award.

Murray Smith, professor emeritus in physical education and recreation, was elected to the Edmonton Sports Hall of Fame as a builder of sport.

In 1958, Smith began an illustrious three-decade academic career at the U of A. He coached the Golden Bear's football team for two years starting in 1960, winning the Canada West in his first year. He also served as an assistant coach on the 1980 national champion football team.

As swimming coach at the U of A, Murray led the Bears swim teams to eight conference championships. He was named Canadian Coach-of-the-Year in 1967. Elected to the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame in 2006, Smith also made an impact with his expertise in sports psychology. Major sports organizations across the country have sought his services, including the NHL's Edmonton Oilers, the Memorial Cup champions the Kelowna Rockets and numerous national and Olympic athletes.

Gene Dub, a U of A alumnus and architect of Edmonton's City Hall, was also inducted into the Arts and Culture Hall of Fame.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

The University of Alberta maintains a database of all alumni. This database is used to send you news about the U of A, including folio and *New Trail*, invitations to special events and requests for support. On Sept. 1, 1999, post-secondary institutions were required to comply with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation of the province of Alberta. In accordance with this legislation, please respond to one of the following options:

- ❑ Please keep my name, or
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No response means the University of Alberta assumes an individual wishes to remain on the mailing list.

Wish comes true for university stargazers

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta joined the space race in a big way July 5 when the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science opened the campus' newest observatory.

The observatory will house three telescopes, which have a range of diameters of 12, 14 and 20 inches.

The 12-inch telescope dates back to 1967, and has been used for public outreach since it was installed on the roof of the former Avadh Bhatia Physics building in 1977. This is the telescope that was on the roof of the Fine Arts Building while CCIS was being built.

The 14-inch Schmidt-Cassegrain Celestron was donated to the U of A by Peter and Eva Pocklington in the late 1980s, and features a solar filter that will allow students to observe the sun. The Royal Astronomical Society Edmonton-Centre is providing a special solar filter telescope as a long-term loan to the observatory, which will sit "piggyback" on the Pocklington telescope.

The 20-inch telescope was designed and built by technicians in the Department of Physics in 1977. It was located on land owned by the U of A near the town of Devon.

"This observatory makes it possible to bring students right to where the telescopes are," said Sharon Morsink, professor in the Department of Physics. "In almost every other area of science, when students learn the science, they learn the practical aspects of it; they have labs where they do experiments, and through the experiments they do follow an active learning approach. Astronomy is one of the few fields at the university that hasn't had those types of labs."

The arrival of the observatory coincides with the execution of a U of A Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund project entitled *Enhancing Astronomy Education through On Campus Telescopes*, submitted by Morsink and fellow physicists Craig Heinke and Gregory Sivakoff.

The goal of the project, which received $55,500 in funding, is to transform the CCIS Observatory into a world-class undergraduate research facility where students will learn how to use telescopes and to design observing research projects using the university's telescopes.

Morsink says this will be done by developing telescope-based laboratory projects that will be added to five existing physics and astronomy courses, which have a total enrolment of about 340 students each year.

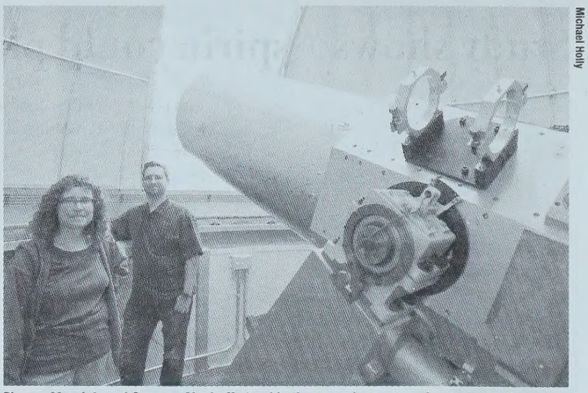
She says the plan is to hire undergraduate and graduate students to test out the equipment, to write users' manuals and to develop laboratory exercises and projects using the telescopes, and assist in teaching the new telescope-based labs.

"Research in the classroom is the best way for students to understand what they're doing," said Morsink. "It brings in a new dimension that goes beyond textbooks.

"Students have a better appreciation for what they're learning when they actually do it."

The teaching and learning fund, launched in 2006, is a key initiative in support of the U of A's *Dare to Deliver* vision document. The purpose of the fund is to support those engaged in teaching at the university, allowing them to improve their teaching skills, enhance their understanding of teaching and learning processes and provide teaching environments to optimize the student experience.

Morsink says the fund is a wonderful university initiative that takes some of the focus off of pure research and directs it towards teaching. "All these projects [are] fantastic ways of improving the learning experience for students."



Michael Holly

Sharon Morsink and Gregory Sivakoff stand in the new observatory, located atop the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science.

Province ups ante in cancer fight

Michael Brown

The instance of a pancreatic cancer diagnosis is just about equal to the disease's mortality rate. Looking to reverse this bleak outlook and increase outcomes across all types of cancer diagnosis, Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions, together with the Alberta Cancer Foundation, has announced $3 million in funding for 13 University of Alberta studies.

One of the award winners is Jennifer Spratlin, a gastrointestinal cancer specialist at the U of A, who was awarded two grants worth more than $300,000 for clinical studies focused on better treatments for pancreatic cancer.

"The five-year survival rate for this cancer is about five per cent," said Spratlin. "That means this cancer is fatal for 95 per cent of people. We absolutely want to offer better outcomes for our patients."

Spratlin's clinical research team is spearheading a clinical trial in several cities across Canada, aiming to enrol 150 patients over the next two years. The trial will compare two existing treatments for pancreatic cancer.

Spratlin's team will test patients' tumours to identify whether they have a specific transporter protein that opens the door for a common chemotherapy to attack pancreatic cancer cells. She says she hope the trial results will allow physicians to see if this protein better determines what chemotherapy drug is best suited for use in each individual patient.

"We want to know how we can better personalize treatment for pancreatic cancer, both when we are trying to cure it and for those people who, unfortunately, have seen the disease spread and are just trying to extend their life," said Spratlin. "It would be nice to have a test that we could do up front for people that allows us to give patients the right treatment for them and potentially not be expose them to a drug that won't work for them."

Although pancreatic cancer is the 10th most common form of cancer, it is the fourth leading cause of cancer death. Spratlin says that surviving pancreatic cancer is dependent on whether or not the cancer is operable, which occurs in just 20 per cent of diagnoses. After that, survival is contingent on the effectiveness of chemotherapy, but the chances of surviving past five years are still slim.

Spratlin says a team of researchers at both the Cross Cancer Institute and the Department of Oncology at the U of A Hospital have spent years working towards these clinical trials, performing all the pre-clinic work, which included identifying the transporter protein.

"It's really nice to see the work that truly is from the bench to the bedside is being done, all at the University of Alberta," said Spratlin, who credits much of the background work to her mentors, university oncologists Carol Cass and John Mackey. "Collaboration is so important. If we don't use what they're doing, we're walking similar paths, but you need that cross point where really important key discoveries occur."

All told, AIHS and Alberta Cancer Foundation, in partnership with Alberta Health and Wellness, awarded $7 million in research funding spread over three years to 27 projects province wide.

Michael Brown

Jennifer Spratlin, a gastrointestinal cancer specialist at the U of A, talks with pancreatic cancer survivor Ken Ritz.

Recent AIHS & Alberta Cancer Foundation cancer research projects at the U of A

Alberta Cancer Operating Grants ($150,000/year for three years)

- Robert Ingham, professor, Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology – The Function and Regulation of JunB in ALK+ ALCL.
- Kurian Joseph, assistant professor of radiation oncology, Department of Oncology – Preventing or Reducing Acute and Late Effects of Radiation Therapy in Patients with Solid Tumors. Advanced Technology Meets Clinical Outcomes.
- Roger Leng, professor, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology – Molecular Mechanism of Negative Regulation of Tumor Suppressor p53.

Alberta Cancer High Risk for High Returns Grants (Up to $150,000/year for two years)

- David Evans, professor and chair , Department Medical Microbiology and Immunology – Tuning the Oncolytic Properties of Vaccinia Virus through Mutation of Proteins Catalyzing Nucleotide Biosynthesis.
- Michael Sawyer, associate professor, Department of Oncology – Mechanisms of Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor Toxicity.
- Jennifer Spratlin, assistant professor, Department of Oncology – A Multicentre, Randomized, Open Label, Phase III Study of Gemcitabine Versus FOLFOX in the First Line Setting for Metastatic Pancreatic Cancer Patients Using Upfront Human Equilibrative Nucleoside Transporter 1 (hENT1) Biomarker Testing.
- Hasan Uludag, professor, Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering – siRNA Based Molecular Therapy for Reversal of Drug Resistance in Leukemia.
- Frank Wuest, associate professor, Department of Oncology – In Vivo Chemistry for Pretargeted Molecular Imaging and Therapy of Cancer.

Cancer Bridge, Pilot and Limited Term Project Grants ($50,000 for one year)

- YangXin Fu, professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology – Role of Notch in Ovarian Cancer Stem Cells.
- Andrew Shaw, professor, Department of Oncology - Bcl10: A Novel Role in DNA Repair.
- D. Alan Underhill, associate professor, Department of Oncology – Regulation of PAX3 Structure and Activity in Melanoma.
- Robert Ingham, professor, Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology – Does the Granzyme B Serine Protease Contribute to the Invasiveness or Tumorigenicity of Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma-positive, Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma?
- Jennifer Spratlin, ssistant professor, Department of Oncology – Biomarker Directed Adjuvant Therapy for Resected Pancreas Cancer.

Study shows Aspirin could play role in preventing heart attacks in diabetics

Sandra Pysklywyc

In some cases, an apple a day may keep the doctor away, but for people with diabetes, regular, over-the-counter Aspirin may also do the job.

A new study by University of Alberta researcher Scot Simpson has shed light on the use of Aspirin as a preventative measure for cardiovascular disease and reoccurrence in patients with diabetes.

The study collected data from clinical trials that looked at whether taking Aspirin as a course of treatment would prevent a first or recurrent heart attack or stroke.

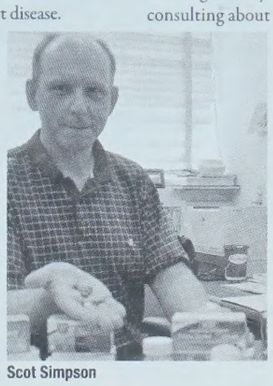
Using information from diabetic patients in these studies, Simpson discovered that patients with previous cardiac episodes who were taking a low daily dose of Aspirin had very little benefit in terms of prevention of a second heart attack or a decreased risk of mortality. However, in patients taking higher doses of Aspirin, the risk of a repeat heart attack and/or death was significantly lower.

"We took all of the data from 21 studies and focused specifically on diabetic patients who had suffered a previous heart attack or stroke to measure the ability of Aspirin to prevent a second event. We found that, if those patients took up to 325 milligrams of Aspirin per day, they had a 23 per cent lower risk of death," said Simpson.

Simpson, an associate professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, says that people with diabetes are at an increased risk of cardiovascular disease, and that there is evidence that suggests as much as 60 per cent of deaths in diabetics are attributable to heart disease.

Simpson says he always suspected Aspirin dosage could play a role in treating cardiovascular disease in diabetics and felt that, because Aspirin is an over-the-counter medication, it's something that pharmacists could have an active role in administering.

"The pharmacists' best role for chronic disease management is working proactively with physicians and patients," said Simpson. "Whether that means working directly with the physician, and consulting about prescribed medications, or when the patient is deciding about whether or not to take Aspirin as part of a treatment plan, pharmacists can have a significant, positive impact."



Scot Simpson

Simpson's study was recently published in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. Other researchers from the U of A include John-Michael Gamble, in the School of Public Health; Laurie Mereu, in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, and Thane Chambers, in Library Services.

Protein discovery could aid cardiovascular disease cure

Quinn Phillips

A multidisciplinary research team in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry has taken a big step towards understanding the cause and potential cure for a deadly cardiovascular disease.

Evangelos Michelakis, a cardiologist in the Department of Medicine, and his graduate student Gopinath Sutendra, along with fellow researchers in the faculty and collaborators from Laval and Yale universities, found that a protein called Nogo is critical in the development of pulmonary arterial hypertension.

This condition causes high blood pressure in the arteries of the lungs and leads to heart failure and death. Available therapies may alleviate some symptoms but they cannot reverse the disease and prolong survival of the patients.

"Mice with pulmonary arterial hypertension had very high levels of Nogo in their lung arteries, but animal models that were genetically lacking Nogo were completely resistant to developing the disease," said Michelakis. "New therapies are planned in other diseases where Nogo is important, like spinal-cord injury. Such therapies could be applied to pulmonary arterial hypertension."

In addition to work done in laboratory models, the research team found that the level of Nogo was also high in arteries of patients with pulmonary arterial hypertension. Michelakis took samples from 41 patients at his pulmonary hypertension clinic and compared it to 26 patients who didn't have the disease.

"We showed that Nogo levels were higher in pulmonary arterial hypertension," said Michelakis. "We also found the sicker the patient was, the higher the levels. This might be an important biomarker for the disease. A lab test could show us how severe the disease is or whether the disease is going to get worse."

This is a "very satisfying" step forward, according to Sutendra, because it creates a platform on which several experimental therapies might be developed because many scientists are studying Nogo.

"We believe that by bringing along these [spinal cord and neurology] colleagues into the field of pulmonary hypertension, we'll contribute to accelerating knowledge and discovery of new therapies in this disease," said Michelakis.

Currently the Michelakis lab is testing molecules that can inhibit Nogo. They are having preliminary success in their laboratory models.

"As soon as we complete these studies and we publish them then we can try them in humans," said Michelakis. "A lot of these things we can try have already been used in humans for other conditions."

The researchers' latest findings were published in the June 22 edition of *Science Translational Medicine* and show for the first time that Nogo causes suppression of mitochondrial function in cells, and could explain why metabolism is altered in lung arteries. These findings could be important to many other conditions where Nogo is involved, including cancer or diseases of the nervous system.

Michelakis has attracted international attention for other work—he discovered that dichloroacetate, or DCA, a relatively non-toxic, inexpensive pharmaceutical, could have the potential to treat some types of cancer. Michelakis was able to alter the metabolism of tumours (change the way tumours generate energy) by targeting the mitochondria, the energy producing units in cells.

Evangelos Michelakis and Gopinath Sutendra (Supplied photo)

Royal lesson in solar cells

Continued from page 1

affordable solar cells, and let them hold demonstration plastic solar cells that our team made for the event; we made plastic cells in the shapes of leaves, and a Canadian flag to demonstrate their versatility. The panels we are developing are as thin as paper and will be able to be rolled out of production like newspaper and have enormous application for the developing world.

Why do you think your research was selected to be presented?

I think in a province like Alberta where there is so much focus on the oilsands, the Government of Alberta was eager to show off some of the research work they support in alternative energy like the solar panels our team works on. It was definitely another way to get the solar message out.

What kinds of questions were asked by the royal couple about your work?

Prince William asked me when the technology was likely to be available and Catherine commented on the applicability of this technology for the developing world but also asked me if it can be used on a boat—nudging her husband as she did.

What was their reaction to your work?

It was incredible as it was just me and them for three minutes and I was amazed at how focused the royal couple were when I presented to them. It was remarkable. As it was a sunny day in Calgary I mentioned to them how the solar panels would work well in a place like the backcountry Skoki Lodge where my family goes every year, a fact they could relate to that since they had just stayed there the night before.

Who else presented from the U of A?

The Kenya Ceramic Project, which is a health pilot project aimed at introducing innovative ceramic water filters and high-efficiency wood burning stoves to rural areas of Kenya. The project started in 2007 and is led by students and alumni from the University of Alberta and International Health Initiatives by Medical Students.

What did you wear?

I was going to wear a nice skirt suit but I was in a bike accident a few weeks ago and my legs were pretty scraped up, so I opted for a black pant suit and green shirt in the spirit of my presentation. It really was a great honour and it was not until afterwards when I replayed the whole presentation that I wished I had not been quite so nervous. It was a really wonderful experience and they are really a remarkable couple.

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge talk with Jillian Buriak about solar cells in Calgary July 8. (Supplied photo)

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Alexandra Sheppard, whose name was drawn as part of folio's June 17 "Are You a Winner?" contest. She correctly identified the photo in question as being the pedway between Stadium car park and the Students' Union Building. For her correct answer, Sheppard has won a trusty U of A-issue stainless-steel coffee mug, as well as a U of A bookmark.

Up for grabs this week is CD gift pack from folkwaysAlive! complete with a copy of "Seeing the World of Sound: The Cover Art of Folkways Records." To win the prize pack, simply identify where the above pedway is situated and email your answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Aug. 12, and you will be entered into the draw.

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Headache from: TMJ, Migraine, Tensions, Sinusitis, Whiplash, etc....
Neurogical: Anxiety & Panic Attacks, Insomnia, Stroke Paralysis, Facial Paralysis, Vertigo, MS, ADHD, etc...
Reproduction: Male & Female Infertility, Low-energy, Menopause S, Prostatitis, Dysmenorrhea, Menoxenia, etc....
Soft-tissue: Stubborn injuries & strain, Backache, Sciatica, Arthritis, Bursitis, Tendonitis, Frozen Shoulder, etc....
Skin: Server Eczema/Psoriasis; Alopecia, Hives, Shingles, etc...
Others: hemorrhoid, Diabetic-Gangrene, Raynaud's S, Rheumatism...
Etc....

Michael Davies-Venn

Rethinking global university rankings

Indira Samarasekera
President and vice-chancellor

the open door

Op-ed first published in Inside Higher Ed *July 12*.

Put a group of university presidents together in one room and it won't take long for the conversation to turn to that pesky thorn that is now firmly entrenched and slowly festering in our sides: national and international university rankings. In the beginning, when these rankings were largely compiled by media outlets such as *U.S. News & World Report* or *Maclean's* magazine to attract consumers to special features focused on the pros and cons of campuses in the United States or Canada, the thorn barely touched us with a glancing scratch. Over time, however, the annual scratch became more and more insistent and harder to ignore. Now rankings are nasty and barbed thorns with the capacity to hobble—sometimes disastrously so—otherwise healthy, high-functioning institutions of higher learning. And they're here to stay.

Although the best-known rankings are beginning to devise methods to increase accuracy and objectivity, rankings remain flawed and misleading on many fronts. Too many measures continue to rely on the subjective judgment of faculty, employers or students who, in most cases, will have little, if any, knowledge of institutions or individual researchers outside the realm of their own direct experience. No measure has been found that accurately captures the value and impact of humanities and social science research, and trying to quantify the quality of undergraduate teaching or student experience through a simple faculty-student ratio simply cannot stand up to scrutiny. It must also be remembered that many of the rankings only take into account research that is recorded in English, leaving much of the tremendous work and talent in countries such as China and Russia unrecognized and undervalued.

From my perspective, rankings are also missing the mark by failing to shine a light on some of the most significant benefits that universities bring to local, national and global societies. The focus of most rankings is on academic research outputs—publications, citations and major awards—that stand in as proxies for research quality and reach. While these outputs do a fairly good job of pinpointing the impact of a university's contributions to knowledge, especially in science, technology, engineering and health sciences, they provide little indication of what kind of impact these advancements have on factors that the global community generally agrees are markers of prosperous and secure societies with a high quality of life.

Let me give you an example of what I mean: governments and policymakers everywhere now consider universities as economic engines, as well as educational institutions. Public investments in research are increasingly directed toward research with the potential to translate into products, processes and policies—even whole new industries. This trend in research funding reveals a lot about the ways in which universities matter to governments, policymakers, regions and the public today, but the rankers aren't paying attention.

> "[Rankings should] adhere more closely to measures that reflect the priorities for which universities are being held accountable today by their various stakeholders."
>
> Indira Samarasekera

Consider Israel. According to data on NASDAQ's website, Israel has more companies listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange than any other country in the world except the U.S., and major companies such as Intel, Microsoft, IBM and Google have major research and development centres in Israel. Why? If you look at the data, you see a correlation between this entrepreneurial activity and the investments in and outputs from Israel's universities.

Israel is among a handful of nations with the highest public expenditure on educational institutions relative to gross domestic product, and it has the highest rate of research and development investment relative to GDP in the world. It also has the highest percentage of engineers in the workforce and among the highest ratio of university degrees per capita. Many of the companies listed on NASDAQ were started by graduates of Israel's universities: Technion, Tel Aviv University, Weizmann Institute and Hebrew University of Jerusalem, to mention a few. Do international university rankings capture these economic impacts from research and postsecondary education in Israel? The answer is no. In spite of their tremendous impact and output, Israel's universities are ranked somewhere in the 100 to 200 range.

Germany's universities also tend to be undervalued in international rankings, even though Germany has had the strongest exports-led economic growth during the recession. By contrast, Britain's productivity, growth and competitiveness lag far behind Germany, and still, British universities generally outrank Germany's. According to OECD statistics, the proportion of higher education research and development funded by business in Germany is over twice that of Britain, which suggests the strong link between Germany's globally competitive business sector and universities.

My point here is not that universities should be ranked according to economic impact, per se. Instead it is to suggest that, if rankings are here to stay, then they should, at least in part, adhere more closely to measures that reflect the priorities for which universities are being held accountable today by their various stakeholders. Otherwise the rankings will continue to miss the mark and reinforce tired reputations and old hierarchies.

Verna Yiu named interim dean of medicine

Folio staff

Verna Yiu has been appointed interim Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry for the period of June 17, 2011 to June 30, 2013, or until such time as a new dean is appointed, Provost Carl Amrhein announced earlier in this month.

Verna Yiu

Yiu is a professor in the Department of Pediatrics and past divisional director of pediatric nephrology. She has also served as vice-dean in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry since 2008.

As a graduate of the University of Alberta, Yiu received an MD with distinction and completed the pediatric residency program, which was followed by a fellowship in pediatric nephrology at Harvard University's Children's Hospital. She returned to U of A and became the medical director for the Stollery Children's Hospital, later taking on the role of divisional director for pediatric nephrology in 2000. During the same year, Yiu became the assistant dean for student affairs in the faculty, where she developed many new programs, including the first humanism program for medical students in Canada. She was appointed acting vice-dean of the faculty in 2008 and then vice-dean of faculty affairs in 2009.

"With Verna's outstanding record of administrative and academic achievements, I am confident that the faculty and university community will experience a smooth transition over the coming months," said Amrhein.

"I am committed to the success of this faculty and feel a deep sense of obligation and honour to serve its students," said Yiu in her letter of introduction to the current students. "The success of our faculty is contingent upon the participation of its learners. My goal is to keep the pathways of communication open between us."

Yiu has been recognized for excellence in teaching and clinical care and maintains her clinical activities with pediatric nephrology patients in tandem with her administrative role. In addition, she developed the annual "Kidney Kamp" for pediatric kidney patients, chairs the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada's Specialty Committee of Nephrology and is a member of the advisory board for the Gold Humanism Honours Society.

> "The success of our faculty is contingent upon the participation of its learners. My goal is to keep the pathways of communication open between us."
>
> Verna Yiu

Government of Canada invests in U of A discovery

Folio Staff

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada has awarded $19.6 million to 125 University of Alberta projects, which comprise the 2011 competition results for NSERC's Discovery Grants and Discovery Accelerator Supplements Program.

Among the U of A grantees is Michael Caldwell, chair in the Department of Biological Sciences and a paleontology researcher. He is receiving both a five-year, $50,000 Discovery Grant and a Discovery Accelerator Supplement of $120,000 over three years. Caldwell's ongoing and much-published research is focused on the evolution of snakes and lizards.

Caldwell says NSERC's core funding is essential to his work. "If you're going to pay graduate students, and fund and monitor their research plus be able to afford your own independent research, you've got to have a Discovery Grant."

The Discovery Grants Program supports ongoing programs of research in every scientific and engineering discipline. Of the U of A recipients of core funding NSERC Discovery Grants, 12 have been identified for a Discovery Accelerator Supplement Program grant. Accelerator awards are given to top-ranked researchers judged by their peers to show strong potential for becoming international leaders. The projects NSERC is funding range in length from one to five years. This funding was announced June 17.

Caldwell says NSERC's accelerator funds enable researchers to go beyond the scientific goals stated in funding applications. He adds eureka moments sometimes happen when people can chase down complete surprises in their research results. "The accelerator grant is like an unconstrained handshake to go out and follow new and unexpected results."

The research council also announced scholarships and fellowships awards, including the Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarships and NSERC Postgraduate Scholarships and Postdoctoral Fellowships. Thus far, NSERC has announced that U of A students will be the recipients of 19 Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarships for 2011–12 worth $35,000 each per year. At the doctoral level, U of A students will receive 27 NSERC postgraduate scholarships, valued at $21,000 each per year.

NSERC is a federal agency that helps make Canada a country of discoverers and innovators for all Canadians. The agency supports some 30,000 post-secondary students and postdoctoral fellows in their advanced studies. It promotes discovery by funding more than 12,000 professors every year and fosters innovation by encouraging more than 1,500 Canadian companies to participate and invest in post-secondary research projects.

AASUA ratifies two-year contract

Folio staff

The University of Alberta's Academic Staff Association voted overwhelmingly in favour of accepting the tentative compensation agreement struck between university and association negotiating teams June 17.

Of the 1,430 members who submitted a vote, 90 per cent voted in favour of the two-year compensation agreement for academic staff that provides for across-the-board increases to salary scales of 1.75 per cent and two per cent as well as increased value of merit increments to be provided July 1, 2011 and July 1, 2012.

Other terms of the agreement include increased funding for academic benefits and pensions.

To view the joint recommendation, go to: www.ualberta.ca/~public as/uofa/pdf/Agreement.PDF.

Grant helps U of A create international reclamation graduate school

Michel Proulx

Anne Naeth

The Land Reclamation International Graduate School, which will begin accepting students within a year, is the first entity at the U of A to receive funding from Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada's prestigious Collaborative Research and Training Experience Program.

The graduate school received $1.65 million in funding and will eventually have about three dozen MSc and PhD students and post-doctoral fellows who will examine the science, as well as the socio-economic and regulatory issues, surrounding land reclamation.

"Land reclamation is not a solitary science," said Anne Naeth, a reclamation and restoration ecologist with the Department of Renewable Resources in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences, who secured the funding and will lead the school. "You really have to work as a team. Land reclamation is so tied to economics, culture, politics and regulatory issues that if you don't understand those, you won't be a good land reclamationist." She said the multidisciplinary approach of the school is what differentiates it from other similar schools and programs around the world.

Faculty members and students will work closely with industry, specifically with oilsands companies, and with government regulators, to ensure the program focuses on current issues in the field.

"Industry and government are a big part of our plan," said Naeth. "These students are going to be very proficient in understanding the whole continuum of the science, its application in industrial settings and the regulatory context that also comes into play."

The school will host Canadian and international students who, according to Naeth, share some similarities in their approaches to land reclamation, as well as some interesting differences.

She explained that North Americans tend to place an emphasis on returning native species to disturbed lands, while Europeans and Asians are more concerned with ensuring a functional landscape.

"They're not as concerned about the nuances of species," Naeth explains.

The idea to create the school evolved from workshops Naeth conducted and presentations she made to colleagues and graduate students in Germany, Austria and Switzerland in the past three years. She and her European colleagues, mostly from Germany, began discussing how they could formalize their relationship and continue to learn from each other.

With the creation in December 2009 of the Helmholtz-Alberta Initiative, a $25 million initiative over five years between the University of Alberta and the Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres, which focuses on driving technological innovations towards cleaner energy production, the relationship expanded and became more formal.

The initiative, which is aligned closely with the school, identified land reclamation as one of six themes it focuses on.

The school will develop new courses, make minor adjustments to others and use video conferencing extensively to fulfil all the requirements of an international graduate school.

It will also, among other things, develop a speaker series in which land reclamation experts from around the world will make presentations.

NSERC's CREATE program, which supports the development of innovative training programs that encourage collaborative and integrative approaches, address significant scientific challenges associated with Canada's research priorities and facilitates the transition of new researchers from trainees to productive employees in the Canadian workforce.

Joint U of A-India partnership seeks to alleviate poverty in rural India

Aaron Yeo and Michel Proulx

An ambitious $4.9-million project, managed in partnership by the Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences and India's MS Swaminathan Research Foundation is aiming to alleviate poverty and malnutrition in three rural communities in India.

Nat Kav, professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science and co-principal investigator of the project, says that over the past few decades, farmers in the once diverse agricultural areas have grown primarily cash crops rather than the more traditional and nutritious foods they used to cultivate.

"Many of the people are now deficient in several nutrients because of the lack of diversity in what they eat," said Kav, who added that iron deficiency and anemia are prevalent in the regions.

Cash crops in India, such as rice and cassava, have been valued over more traditional millet and yams, as well as many garden vegetables. However, while it is profitable in the short-run to grow the cash crops, it has had a detrimental effect on people's health and the land.

"With cassava, over time, these crops start to mine the soils," explained Brent Swallow, professor and co-principal investigator in the Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology. "The crop degrades the soils, and the plants develop pest problems because the farmers have been growing just one variety, and it's easy for pests to come up and attack the plants."

To address this, the research team—composed of Kav, Swallow, ALES food economist Ellen Goddard and soils scientist Miles Dyck, as well as three ALES graduate students and their counterparts from the MS Swaminathan Foundation—will introduce intercropping, the practice of planting multiple crops in the same area. Plants that require different nutrients or different sunlight conditions can share farmland, increase diversity and be more resilient against pests.

While these practices will be used on farms, not everyone in the community owns land. The team will look at integrating the non-land owners into the food production and processing chain, with a focus on empowering Indian women.

"The MS Swaminathan Research Foundation and others have found that, if we can engage women, then the chances of things like this flourishing are much higher," Kav explained.

Currently, the team is developing surveys and instruments to collect baseline data, which will be used for comparison until mid-2014, when the project is slated to end. Four thousand households will be studied at first, which will then be narrowed down for the on-farm portion of the project.

Professor MS Swaminathan is perhaps best known as the father of the Indian green revolution, which transformed his country by making it self-sufficient in food. He was the first-ever recipient of the World Food Prize, the most prestigious international prize given in food and agriculture. Swaminathan was awarded an honorary degree from the U of A in October 2010.

The project is co-funded by the International Development Research Council and the Canadian International Development Agency.

To address the proliferation of cash crops that have robbed India's agriculture of diversity, the research team will introduce intercropping, the practice of planting multiple crops in the same area. (Supplied photo)

Award-winning instructor says teaching is a journey

Michael Brown

teaching & learning, learning & teaching

For Anne Boerger, teaching, like life, isn't about the destination, but rather the journey.

Anne Boerger

The sessional assistant professor and president of Campus Saint-Jean's Teaching and Learning Committee likens her role of instructor to a traveler who has to be well prepared with the necessary knowledge and tools to make the most out of the day.

"Both the teacher and the traveler need to remain open to serendipitous experiences beyond their initial plans. They need to seize the opportunities as they present themselves," said Boerger. "Their ability to adapt constantly to a changing environment is key to their success, whether on the road or in the classroom.

"Both teaching and taking a journey are an adventure to be enjoyed."

This philosophy isn't just sound in principle, it seems to transfer well to the classroom, as Boerger is a recipient of the 2011 William Hardy Alexander Award in Undergraduate Teaching.

Boerger began her journey at Campus Saint-Jean in 2003. She remembers her first assignment, teaching political science rather than history, which was the subject of her doctorate.

"I had to understand the North American teaching culture, which was so different from my own European educational background. I had to grasp the implications of teaching in a minority setting to students, most of whom had French only as a second language," she says.

Undeterred by a new teaching situation, Boerger says she developed five core principles of good teaching, based on who she is as an individual and on the particulars of the historical discipline she teaches. She says that good teaching is about being committed and about being on top of her game, helping students to develop transferable skills and strong habits of mind, opening the student's mind to the world and its diversity, creating inclusive learning opportunities and making the material relevant and interesting.

"Studying the past helps us to better understand ourselves and our place in the world here and now. It gives us perspective on our own human experience, and encourages us to see the bigger picture," said Boerger, adding this benefit is not always so clear to the students who tend to associate learning history with memorizing lists of facts. "It is vital to make what I teach as relevant as possible to my students in order to show them how history relates to their lives and to the world in which they live."

She adds, "If I have made progress in my journey as a teacher, this is still and always will be an ongoing journey. It is a path of continuing growth and development on which I intend to keep travelling, since it gives meaning and focus to my professional life."

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Student-created chickpea chips take bite out of competition

Bev Betkowski

Hungry for success on a class project, a group of University of Alberta students has taken their recipe for chickpea chips and turned it into a winning snack that crunched its way to first place in a national competition July 12.

Chickitos, a gluten-free chip, took a bite out of provincial competitors this spring and won against two other Canadian teams at Pulse Canada's national Mission ImPULSEible competition in Vancouver.

What started out as a fourth-year food science project for students in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science soon turned into an all-consuming kitchen experiment and a quest for chip perfection.

"We just wanted to get a good grade, and it went from there," said Eden Berhe, who toiled in the lab kitchen for more than 150 hours with her fellow classmates Kate Alexander, Marshall Bell and Paula Duenas, before they hit on a tasty formulation.

When the group found out about a contest being hosted by the Alberta Pulse Growers, it decided to develop a gluten-free snack food worthy of a competition.

"We thought, 'why not do something we can enter into a contest?'" said Alexander, who just graduated with a degree in nutrition and food science.

From then on, it was a month's worth of intense trial and error of about 20 recipes using chickpea flour, potato starch, canola oil and secret spices, with classmates giving taste and texture reviews. Early crash-and-burn efforts had the team ditch its original idea of developing a cracker and turn to creating a chip instead. "The cracker got horrible reviews, so we changed our formula completely. They fell apart too easily and had no crunch, so we did a lot of baking and testing," said Alexander.

"Most people don't like the taste of chickpeas. The challenge we took up was to make chickpeas taste good," added Berhe, who just earned her degree in food science and technology.

The group tweaked its chip recipe after Berhe's mom tasted it and was stirred by memories of food from her native Eritrea. The formula worked much better and after being spiced up, went to provincial competition last spring, where the smoky-flavored Chickitos beat out other student-created goodies like noodles, gnocchi, cookies, perogies and power bars.

Besides being gluten-free, Chickitos are low in sodium and a source of fibre; they're also higher in protein and lower in calories than the average bag of potato chips.

The Chickitos team knew it had a good product, but was still stunned to win at nationals. "I'm pretty sure our mouths all dropped to the ground, and we were happy and surprised. It was awesome," Alexander said. "It's amazing to know that we've done something right."

With its $2,500 prize, the team now plans to explore its options for marketing Chickitos. "The sky's the limit—this competition and conference opened our eyes to how big the pulse industry is and how I, for sure, really want to be in this industry, reinvesting in Chickitos—whether we sell it or make a company out of it." ■

Bev Betkowski

Kate Alexander and Eden Berhe won a national chip competition July 12.

Putting the 'yes' in TEC Edmonton

staff spotlight

Brian Murphy

Gigi Ho likes many things about her job at the business incubator TEC Edmonton, and high on that list is not having to use one particular word. "We never say 'no,'" said Ho. "We have lots of services for tech start-up companies, but if we can't help, we find someone who can."

It's that kind of enthusiasm that Ho says drew her to TEC Edmonton, the not-for-profit venture between the University of Alberta and the Edmonton Economic Development Corporation office.

Ho brings an interesting mix of education to her job as a business development associate. Her undergraduate degree in anthropology and biology was capped off with a master's degree in biomedical technology. "My master's is one half science and one half business, which is a huge asset for understanding new technologies and finding the right way to put those people in business."

On the business side, Ho takes entrepreneurs through the steps of establishing intellectual property rights to the technology, all the way to finding its market potential and bringing the right investors onboard.

"One of my favourite projects comes from U of A medical research into a fast and accurate test for colon cancer," said Ho. She explains the technology, based on a simple urine test, is now in clinical trials. In the meantime, the newly formed company, Metabolomic Technologies, Inc., which Ho helped set up, is looking for the best way to sell its product. "They're looking at what marketing platform to use for the test," said Ho. "Do they sell it to medical testing labs that will run the test or do they put it in drug stores where people buy it and do the test themselves?"

Ho says it's easy to get caught up in the enthusiasm at TEC Edmonton. "Technology entrepreneurs bring vision and energy with their projects and that makes TEC Edmonton a very positive place to work." ■

Gigi Ho, a business development associate with TEC Edmonton, helps technology entrepreneurs bring their ideas to market. (Supplied photo)

Study shows earlier springs hinder blooms

Bev Betkowski

Spring is hailed as the season of rebirth, but if it comes too early, it can threaten the plants it is meant to welcome.

A University of Alberta study shows that climate change over the past 70 years appears to have pushed some of the province's native wildflowers and trees into earlier blooming times, making them more vulnerable to damaging frosts, and ultimately, threatening reproduction.

U of A PhD candidate Elisabeth Beaubien and her supervisor, professor Andreas Hamann, of the Department of Renewable Resources, studied the life cycle of central Alberta spring blooms, spanning 1936 to 2006, evaluating climate trends and the corresponding changes in bloom times for seven plant species.

Using thermal time models, the researchers found that the bloom dates for early spring species such as prairie crocus flowers and trembling aspen trees had advanced by two weeks over the stretch of seven decades, with later-blooming species such as saskatoon and chokecherry bushes being pushed ahead by up to six days. The average winter monthly temperature increased considerably over 70 years, with the greatest change noted in February, which warmed by 5.3 degrees Celsius.

"Increasing exposure to frost means a gradual loss of ability for a plant species to survive where they are growing," Beaubien said. "Loss of flowers means no seeds are produced, and with climate warming and shifts in vegetation zones, we will need abundant seed production so that plants can reproduce, and with help from wind-borne seeds, can find more suitable habitats."

The study, funded by grants from NSERC and Alberta Ingenuity, appears in the July issue of *Bioscience*.

In gathering their data, Beaubien and Hamann built on a network of information about phenology—the study of the timing of life cycle events—that was started in 1936 by the federal agriculture department and has since been supplemented by the collaborative efforts of university biologists, government researchers and more than 650 volunteers from the general public. ■

Bev Betkowski

Elisabeth Beaubien has found that earlier springs have pushed some of the province's wildflowers into earlier blooming times, making them vulnerable.

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Old wastewater plant put out to pasture

Bev Betkowski

A used-up sewage plant is not an inspiring class project by any means, but a group of University of Alberta students has come up with a way to reclaim just such a site in Lac La Biche.

As their capstone project for a fourth-year land reclamation course in the Department of Renewable Resources, a team of six undergraduates researched how to put out to pasture an aging wastewater plant in the northern Alberta town.

Lac La Biche's wastewater plant and its two lagoons were built in 1983 to serve the community, but over the years, the small lake that takes the effluent from the plant has become choked with algae, affecting the quality of the Lac La Biche watershed. A new plant is currently being built by the county, but the students, after reading about the issue in a community newspaper, wanted to tackle the dilemma of what to do with the old facility.

"We wanted to do something realistic for the area, and it seemed most feasible to reclaim it to a cattle grazing leasehold, because that is what is in demand in the area," said Ashley Reinhardt, team leader on the project and a newly minted graduate in environmental and conservation sciences. "The site is beside agricultural areas already."

Together, the students tackled every aspect of land reclamation, viewing past reports about the plant, studying the site characteristics and coming up with a budget of $900,000, based on the estimated costs of labour and material.

Though the project is a theoretical exercise for the students, every step of the process is researched to the last detail and is ready to apply, said professor Anne Naeth.

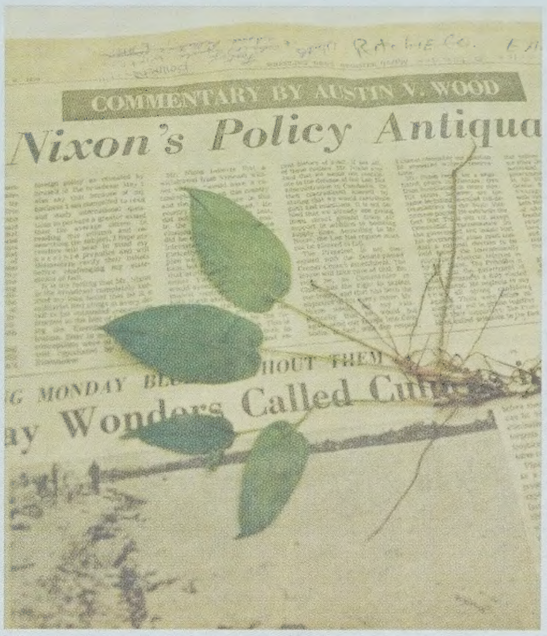
"These projects allow the students to hone their skills as reclamation practitioners. It is far more exciting and meaningful if they can use the real sites and real problems."

The students' five-year plan calls for the plant's two aeration lagoons to be removed, along with 750 metres of pipeline, an access road and a parking lot. Berms surrounding the lagoons would be re-contoured, and the surrounding soil loosened and fertilized. The site would be planted with seven types of prairie grasses, which are perfect for grazing.

"It is realistic and feasible," said Reinhardt. "It's tough to say what the community would think about it, but that area, we feel, would be accepting of it. We kept the cost low and it is reclaimed to something that locals can use."

Land reclamation students find that the best way to reclaim an obsolete wastewater treatment plant is to turn it into a cow pasture. (Supplied photo)

Unearthing old headlines



While sorting a donated collection of plant cuttings as part of their summer jobs, students working in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences were entertained by headlines in the old newsprint in which the samples were swathed. Headlines ranged from military drafts for the Korean War in 1950 to stories in the 1970s about harmful wash-day phosphates in the water and articles about U.S. president Richard Nixon's policies on the Vietnam War. (Supplied photo)

Study finds threat level for caribou in oilsands country reduced

Brian Murphy

A University of Alberta researcher has co-written an extensive study of the caribou population in the Fort McMurray oilsands region that show the animal's survival isn't as threatened as was once thought. The study recommends efforts to manage human activity around resource development rather than killing wolves, the caribou's main predator, as the first step in restoring the population of the herds in a large area south of Fort McMurray.

U of A math and statistical sciences researcher Subhash Lele was part of the team that used specially trained dogs to find scat from caribou, moose and wolves in the study area. "Laboratory analysis of animal scats gave the researchers a window into the genetics, health and diet," said Lele. The new diet information also found that wolves prefer to eat deer over caribou by a wide margin.

The researchers used resource selection statistics along with measurements of the animals' psychological stress levels, derived from their scat samples, to show the effects of local resource development. The researchers found that it is not merely the presence of roads and cut lines, but the intensity of human activity, such as noise levels, that has the biggest affect on the animals.

Previous estimates of the caribou population in the area were largely based on professional opinion and estimates. Those early surveys put the caribou population at between 90 and 150.

This new study paints a different picture for the number of caribou in the McMurray oilsands region. Genetic analysis of the scat, combined with the statistical capture-recapture methods, now puts the current number of caribou between of 209 and 389. The researchers say the population numbers for all animals in the study—caribou, moose and wolves—remained steady during the four-year study.

"The corroborative evidence suggests that wildlife management officials should first try to control the human activity in the area before focusing on a wolf kill as the solution," said Lele.

Supplied

Marvin the scat-tracking dog and his handler search for caribou, moose and wolf droppings in the Alberta oilsands country.

Eggs may be the new apples?

Michel Proulx

One of nature's most perfect foods may be even better for us than previously thought.

While eggs are well known to be an excellent source of proteins, lipids, vitamins and minerals, researchers at the University of Alberta recently discovered they also contain antioxidant properties, which helps in the prevention of cardiovascular disease and cancer.

Jianping Wu, Andreas Schiebe, graduate student Chamila Nimalaratne and research associate Daise Lopes-Lutz examined egg yolks produced by hens fed typical diets of either primarily wheat or corn. They found the yolks contained two amino acids, tryptophan and tyrosine, which have high antioxidant properties.

After analyzing the properties, the researchers determined that two egg yolks in their raw state have almost twice as many antioxidant properties as an apple and about the same as half a serving (25 grams) of cranberries.

However, when the eggs were fried or boiled, antioxidant properties were reduced by about half, and a little more than half if the eggs were cooked in a microwave.

"It's a big reduction but it still leaves eggs equal to apples in their antioxidant value," said Wu.

The discovery of these two amino acids, while important, may only signify the beginning of finding antioxidant properties in egg yolks, says Wu.

"Ultimately, we're trying to map antioxidants in egg yolks so we have to look at all of the properties in the yolks that could contain antioxidants, as well as how the eggs are ingested," said Wu, adding that he and his team will examine the other type of antioxidant already know to be in eggs, carotenoids, the yellow pigment in egg yolk, as well as peptides.

In previous research, Wu found that egg proteins were converted by enzymes in the stomach and small intestine to produce peptides that act the same way as ACE inhibitors, which are prescription drugs that are used to lower high blood pressure.

That finding defied common wisdom and contradicted the public perception that eggs increased high blood pressure because of their high cholesterol content. Additional research by Wu suggests the peptides can be formulated to help prevent and treat hypertension.

Wu is convinced the peptides also have some antioxidant properties, which leads him to suggest that when he completes the next step in his research, the result will likely be that eggs have even more antioxidant properties.

Supplied

Jianping Wu and his team have found that eggs help fight heart diseases and cancer.

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Lab-on-a-chip pioneer wins Kaplan award

Michael Brown

Lab-on-a-chip technology was virtually unheard of at the end of the 1980s; in fact, the yet-to-be invented technology didn't even have a name.

That changed in the early 1990s when a research team, led by University of Alberta chemistry professor Jed Harrison, published a series of papers coining the phrase "lab-on-a-chip" and "microfluidics."

Jed Harrison

Harrison's work looks at a form of mircrofluidics whereby silicon-chip manufacturing technology is applied to the miniaturization of chemical and biochemical analysis systems, known as biosensors—he looks particularly at the separation of ions by electric charge in this process. This research was pioneered by Harrison and his team in an industry where lab-on-a-chip uses are limited only by the imagination and include immunological tests for hormones and drug abuse, DNA diagnostics, tests for soil and water contamination and detecting biological warfare agents on the battlefield.

Both portable and inexpensive, this lab-on-a-chip technology needs only a very small amount of test material—about one billionth of a millilitre. These devices can detect extremely small concentrations, for example, the equivalent of one Tylenol tablet dissolved in 12 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Harrison is a leader in advancement of this miniaturization of chemical analysis, and his work resulted in his being the recipient of the 2011 J. Gordin Kaplan Award—the university's most prestigious research award. He says the U of A has provided him with the environment to succeed.

"I have been able to flourish and accomplish the things I need," he said, adding the university microfabrication facility, now known as the Nano Fab, has allowed many university researchers to prosper. "The equipment in the Nano Fab has allowed us to be state-of-the-art."

For the six years after Harrison joined the U of A's analytical chemistry division in 1984, his team worked on biosensors, a field which had stalled throughout the '80s. The problem that persisted, says Harrison, was taking a measurement of one chemical in the presence of many. "When you think about a biosensor, what you are asking it to do is measure one chemical in a sample that contains many hundreds or thousands of chemicals, and that is a pretty challenging thing to do."

Harrison says the way chemists have previously gone about solving this problem was by way of the laborious task of separating the chemicals first and then taking individual measurements.

"I saw that the engineering community was working on making micromechanical systems, or miniaturized gears and motors on a chip," said Harrison, who has been the chair of the chemistry department for five years. "Seeing that, we asked ourselves if we could miniaturize the separation technology.

"As far as the user is concerned, it still looks like a sensor, but it is much more sophisticated and has a much better chance of measuring one thing in the presence of many."

Nominations being accepted for 2012 Kaplan Awards

The 2012 J Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research is now open for nominations. The award recognizes outstanding work in two distinct fields of research: the general area of humanities, social sciences, law, education and fine arts, and the sciences or engineering.

One awardee from each field will be selected by a jury composed of members of the University Research Grants Review Committee, the vice-president (research), the associate vice-presidents (research), and representatives from the off-campus community.

The three main criteria used for the jury's assessment of the nominees are: quality of research; impact of research on the advancement of the field, both nationally and internationally; and distinction which the research has brought to the University of Alberta.

Each award consists of a $5,000 prize and an engraved plaque of recognition. Awardees automatically become members of the Academy of Kaplan Laureates.

The deadline for receipt of nominations is Nov. 4. Please ensure that dossiers are received by 4:30 p.m. on that date in the Office of the Vice-President (Research), 1-20 University Hall, attention: Annette Kujda.

U of A's sphere of influence on display in magazine's top 50

Donna Richardson and Michael Brown

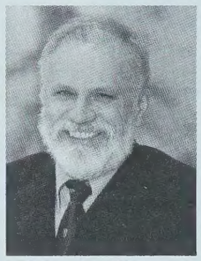
If Louis Hugo Francescutti had his way, he would have us approach things differently when tackling tough public health issues. And, as he was recently named one of the province's top 50 most influential people by *Alberta Venture* magazine, that just might happen.

Francescutti, a professor in the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta, was joined by water ecology professor David Schindler and Molecular ecology post-doctoral fellow Catherine Cullingham as the U of A researchers making the list.

"The old way of doing things is going to give you exactly what you've already got," said Francescutti. "That's not good enough for Canadians."

Francescutti says there are ongoing concerns about the sustainability of the Canadian health-care system. "People are starting to realize that continuing to pour billions of dollars into the health-care system isn't really making that many people healthy.

"We can't abandon people who are unwell, but if we are to make the system sustainable for our kids and improve our economy, then we have to think very differently."



Louis Francescutti

When asked how he'll leverage being recognized as one of Alberta's most influential citizens to advance public health, Francescutti says, "That's easy. I'll use the opportunity to start discussions."

There will likely be many such opportunities for discussion. In addition to serving as professor in the School of Public Health and president of the Royal College, he was recently appointed to a three-year term as honorary colonel of a Canadian military regiment, First Field Ambulance Edmonton.

Francescutti also sits on numerous boards, including the University of Alberta's Board of Governors. "I see my role as encouraging leading-edge thinking and ensuring that our university is in tune with the needs of society."

He thinks the U of A is poised to play a significant and positive role in many areas, including public health. "If we put together our most talented people and partner with our colleagues at other Alberta universities, we could successfully tackle one problem after another," explains Francescutti. He suggests that this should be an iterative approach, where interdisciplinary teams come together to work on an issue and then disband, so that new teams are formed to work on another issue.

"Society is looking for relevance that is immediate," says Francescutti. "We need to be responsible to taxpayers and give them solutions to problems that they face on a daily basis."

A visionary at heart, Francescutti has a dream. "It's not too bold to say, 'Alberta wants to be the healthiest place in the world to work, play and travel.'"

After that, citizens can start expanding the province's success internationally. "As a university, we have a responsibility to make sure that we take care of others."

Alberta Venture named Schindler to the list thanks to his work advocating for the health of the Athabasca River. The former Rhodes Scholar, who has been named to both the Order of Canada and the Alberta Order of Excellence, began studying the Athabasca River in 1989 when he joined the U of A as the Killam Memorial Professor of Ecology. His conclusions—finding that Alberta's oil-sands industry is releasing more pollutants into the Athabasca River, its tributaries and its watershed than previously estimated—led to the formation of a provincial review panel.

"We have to establish a robust long-term monitoring program on the Athabasca," said Schindler with the release of the study in 2010. "The effects on human and environmental health must be accurate and made public."

Cullingham's inclusion in *Alberta Venture*'s top 50 most influential stemmed from her research that determined that the mountain pine beetle has invaded jack pine forests in Alberta, opening up the possibility for an infestation stretching east across the Prairies all the way to the Atlantic.

"Tracking the pine beetles' progression and telling jack pine from the hybrid species took a lot of work," said Cullingham, who raised the alarm with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development and the Canadian Forest Service, which will use the study to manage the infestation. "It was tricky, but our research team used molecular markers to conclusively show that the latest pine species to be attacked is indeed jack pine."

Michael Sikorsky, who completed his first year as the entrepreneur in residence of the U of A's Faculty of Engineering, also made the list. This CEO and co-founder of Robots and Pencils is making his mark in the sector of smart phone applications or "apps." In 2010, his company created the fourth-highest-grossing app in North America, Minecraft World. In 2010, his company received the award for innovation and leadership from Digital Alberta.

Alumnus Todd Hirsch, who received a bachelor of arts in economics from the U of A, made the list as one of the provinces most respected economists.

Andrew Leach, professor in the Alberta School of Business, was listed in *Alberta Venture*'s "next 10" section, as a "future leader to watch," for his reputation as both a skilled economist and a voice of uncommon reason through his regular contributions to *Alberta Oil* and the *Globe and Mail*'s "Economy Lab" as well as frequent updates on his blog, which focuses on energy, climate and the oilsands.

Alumnus and former U of A CJSR radio station music director Aaron Levine joined Leach on the next 10 list, thanks to his influence on bringing the spotlight to underground Canadian music via his label, Cantor Records.

Professor gets ripped for research

Michael Davies-Venn

At 43, and having published several books and articles on the history of early modern visual culture, medicine and the body, University of Alberta art and design researcher Lianne McTavish had what she describes as a "crazy" research idea relating to pop culture.

The thought, as it turned out, culminated with McTavish, a self-described feminist, taking to a stage not often tread by university professors. The idea was to combine her love of weight training with academic work to become what she called "Feminist Figure Girl," a character who would participate in a figure contest, a type of bodybuilding competition that emphasizes muscle tone over size.

Lianne McTavish (Photo supplied)

"I pondered it for a few months before telling anyone because I thought it was a crazy idea," said McTavish. "Training for a bodybuilding contest is an extreme thing to do. I'm 43, and I thought that my body might refuse to co-operate."

The idea that she might fail ultimately challenged McTavish to enter the completion. For six months, she adhered to a strict diet of chicken, bison, sweet potatoes, egg whites, protein powder, oatmeal and Brussels sprouts, and trained two hours, twice daily.

Heading into the competition, McTavish's lean body mass was in the top one percentile for women her age and she was stronger than the average 20-year-old man. However, figure girls are expected to do more than develop their muscles; they must also present a particular image of beauty, the type of which repulsed McTavish the first time she witnessed a figure competition.

Despite what she says are the incongruities between her experiment and her feminist ideals, McTavish decided to conform to the rules of the competition and took posing lessons, added fingernail extensions and paid $700 for a custom-fit bikini. "I did not do this to please the judges, but to have the full figure-girl experience, which authorized me to write about it," she says. She adds that it's difficult to see figure contests as a form of feminist expression, but she believes they are. "The feminist aspect was the female sociability that went with both the preparation and performance, along with the experience of suffering and challenge that brings women together."

It's that connection that made McTavish decide to become a certified personal trainer and volunteer with abused women in shelters who can't afford trainers but want to focus on strengthening their bodies and minds. McTavish is also writing a book that may contribute to changing theories about how women both engage with and resist contemporary norms of beauty.

"Feminist theories tend to address the objectification of the female body but it's empowering to be looked at," she said. "For me, it was not always empowering to be looked at but it was more rewarding than I had thought it would be. My ongoing research will focus on different kinds of looking, and deal with the complexities of being looked at."

One of Alberta's most important literary voices dies

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta community is mourning the sudden and tragic death of an alumnus whose dedication to telling stories of Prairie life was matched only by his enthusiasm for life and his generosity. Robert Kroetsch, author, poet, teacher and one of the U of A's greatest success stories, died June 21 in a car accident. He was 83.

Born in 1927 in the central Alberta village of Heisler, Kroetsch, a voracious reader, once said that, of all the books he had read as a youth, he never found one that spoke to his life and experiences. It was then that the young Alberta farm kid dedicated his career to telling the story of life on the Prairie.

"That's a terrible thing for a child, to be reading and reading and never encounter a wheat field or central Alberta," Kroetsch said in a video created to recognize his 2003 University of Alberta Distinguished Alumni Award. "So there was the script and I wasn't in the script. One of the things that made me speak was to say, 'I was going to put my story into that script somehow.'"

Kroetsch left the farm to attend the U of A, where he graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in 1948. He put down his pen and went to work as laborer uploading and unloading riverboat barges in Canada's North, an experience that eventually found its way into his first novel, *But We Are Exiles* (1965). After university, Kroetsch took a number of different jobs—including a time as a civilian information and education specialist for the United States Air Force in Goose Bay, Labrador.

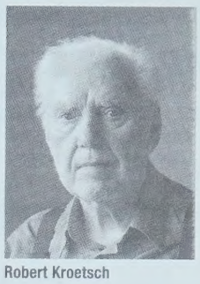
In 1954, he decided to attend graduate school at Middlebury College, Vermont, and began his academic career at Binghamton University in New York. While living in the United States, he began to write and started putting Alberta's story into words. Eventually he returned to Canada in the mid-1970s to teach at the University of Manitoba where he had a long and distinguished career. Upon retiring, he returned Alberta, where he continued to write.

> "One of the things that made me speak was to say, 'I was going to put my story in the script somehow."
>
> Robert Kroetsch

Kroetsch is considered by many to be Alberta's most important writer of fiction, poetry and literary criticism. Kroetsch, whose work is characterized by humour, rich characterization and intellectual rigour, say critics, is considered the first author to successfully write realist fiction about Canada's West—no other work signifies that arrival more than his novel *The Studhorse Man*. Set against the backdrop of a rough-and-ready Alberta emerging after the Second World War, this story is about the adventures a horseman encounters in his quest to breed his rare blue stallion was the winner of the 1969 Governor General's Award for Fiction.

Through all of his writing and his teaching, he not only gave voice to Alberta's and Western Canada's story, but also gave his fellow writers, literary critics and students ways to think through and understand what it means to write and read contemporary Canadian literature. His leadership and influence on the direction and growth of Canadian literary studies over the last several decades is widely recognized.

Among his numerous literary awards, Kroetsch was presented with a Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Distinguished Artist Award in April of this year and was honoured with the Writers Guild of Alberta Golden Pen Award for lifetime achievement at the 2011 Alberta Book Awards June 11. Kroetsch was given an honorary degree from the U of A in 1997 and was made an officer of the Order of Canada in 2004.



Robert Kroetsch

All told, Kroetsch's career saw him pen nine internationally acclaimed novels, 13 books of poetry and seven books of non-fiction, essays and exploration. Over the last decade, Kroetsch worked with U of A Press to publish three new books of poetry and reprint some of his older novels.

"Almost every western Canadian writer can tell you a story about how Robert Kroetsch could make you feel as if you were the only person in a room full of people. It was his gift to encourage aspiring writers while offering tremendous insight into the work of established writers—his colleagues and friends," said Linda Cameron, director of the U of A Press. "As Robert's publisher, his visits stood out and were a highlight of the day. He was always polite, generous in his response to our questions, and appreciative of our work. He was the kind of author publisher's dream of working with.

"He lived life more fully than anyone we know. He will be missed."

Division of Neurosurgery celebrates first female graduate in 50-year history

Quinn Phillips

Jenny Souster faced a daunting reality when she started her residency in neurosurgery in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. No woman in the program's 50-year history had made it through the seven-year program.

That didn't scare her, and now Souster's name goes down in history as the first woman to graduate from the neurosurgery residency program at the University of Alberta.

"I have four brothers, so I think I'm just used to men and surviving with men," joked Souster. "Someone had to be the first and I'm honoured that it was me."

"Female neurosurgeons are just superb," said Keith Aronyk, director of the Division of Neurosurgery in the Department of Surgery. "Technically they're excellent and we need more of them in Canada. This is a tremendous start and are we ever excited."

Souster credits her timing in entering the program, saying that the current academic faculty were very supportive.

"The group of neurosurgeons working here have been wonderful and haven't made it difficult," said Souster.

"Our training program has gone from four teachers in the beginning 50 years ago to 13 now," said Aronyk. "There's a diverse group of neurosurgeons teaching and because of our funding scheme we're able to focus on our teaching a lot more."

> "I have four brothers, so I think I'm used to men and surviving with men."
>
> Jenny Souster

Souster says most residents go through a period of wondering if they can make it. A few years in to her residency she felt burnt out and took some time off to re-evaluate her future.

"I realized I was just in love with neurosurgery and it's what I wanted to do," said Souster. "I ended up coming back with a lot more energy and drive to finish the last few years. It's a long haul, and you just have to make sure you take care of yourself along the way."

Souster thinks that many women don't make it through the program because surgical sub-specialties are a tough lifestyle.

"You have to sacrifice a lot of time, because it's a hard residency with long hours," said Souster. "For a lot of women, we're at the age where we want to have families, so I think that might be one deterrent. The workload is very high; there are a lot of expectations."

Souster's education isn't quite done. She recently left for California to do a fellowship in pediatric neurosurgery at the Los Angeles Children's Hospital. She wants to come back to Canada to practice, and Aronyk is hopeful he can bring her back to the U of A so future students have a female role model.

Supplied

Jenny Souster is the first graduate of neurosurgery in the program's 50-year history.

Kule Institute grants aimed at advancing interdisciplinary research

Michael Davies-Venn

The Kule Institute for Advanced Study has announced the first recipients of its Research Cluster and Interdisciplinary Course Seminar grants. The awards, given to faculty and students from across campus, are the institute's first major undertaking since it established under a year ago.

The two new research programs at the institute will help develop the University of Alberta's interdisciplinary research agenda, according to the institute's founding director Jerry Varsava. He says the programs will help expand research on the institute's current research themes: stewardship of the planet; place, belonging and otherness, and culture, media and technology.

"With the Interdisciplinary Course Seminar grants, we are bringing together some of our top researchers, along with students from a variety of departments and faculties, to explore one or more of our three focus themes," Varsava said. "The courses will be on areas not covered by the curriculum."

He says researchers within different disciplines often work together, but that the institute offers a structured environment that fosters interdisciplinary research, Varsava said. "What is particularly intriguing about KIAS is that it brings a kind of formal structure and a mandated focus to collaboration. That perhaps is a little unusual."

> "The institute is a classic illustration where a great research intensive university has seen the merit of not thinking about things along disciplinary lines."
>
> Jerry Varsava

Researchers from different faculties will lead the course seminars, which will attract undergraduate and graduate students. Each seminar will have up to 12 students who will receive course credits for participating, Varsava says. It is a great opportunity for both students and faculty.

"These are research-intensive seminars and they will be looking at issues from a variety of interdisciplinary points of views and interacting with students from other departments and in some instances, different faculties. The intellectual experience will be of a different order. This is a very attractive opportunity for our students to think beyond their chosen disciplines," said Varsava.

"The institute, as part of its mandate, engages in socially responsive and socially engaged research. Aside from the formal course credits they will get, students are also engaged in timely and topical discussions of contemporary current importance," he said.

Varsava says the cluster grants are the institute's largest program and that they emphasize the importance of cross-discipline collaboration. He says the grants are a vehicle in delivering the university's mission on global citizenship, in that grant recipients will be focusing on issues of importance in Edmonton and around the world. "The institute is interested in helping Albertans understand important issues of the day, such as various profound environmental challenges," he said. "At the same time, these same environmental matters are faced by many other jurisdictions. KIAS is interested in establishing itself as a major international institute with the research it supports offering ideas and insights of interest and currency to a broad international community."

Wayne DeFehr and Patricia Demers, professors in the Department of English and Film Studies; Natalie Kononenko, in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies; Scott Smallwood and Guillaume Tardif, in the Department of Music, and Maria Whiteman, from the Department of Art and Design, are the researchers who won the Interdisciplinary Course Seminar grants.

Recipient of the cluster grants are Isabel Altamirano-Jimenez, Department of Political Science; Diane Conrad, Department of Secondary Education; Sean Gouglas, Department of History and Classics: Gordon Gow in the Faculty of Extension; David Kahane, Department of Political Science and Sheena Wilson, Campus Saint-Jean.

Varsava says the institute will promote the output of the work of its grants recipients beyond the academy, by launching its Kule Dialogues Program within the coming year.

"We are called upon, often in institutional settings, to think along disciplinary lines. But the institute is a classic illustration where a great research intensive university has seen the merit of not thinking about things along disciplinary lines," he said. "The grants are a vehicle in delivering the university's mission on global citizenship and we emphasize the importance of dissemination. The Kule Dialogue Program, which is our dissemination program, will support disseminating the output of these grants in addition to any more formal scholarly dissemination."

news [shorts]

folio *presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.*

Science magazine names U of A a top employer

The Scientist, a magazine of the life sciences, announced July 4 that the U of A is the eighth best institution of higher learning to work at, outside the United States, as part of the publication's ninth annual "Best Places to Work in Academia" survey.

"We are always proud to be recognized as one of the top university workplaces," said President Indira Samarasekera. "This acknowledgement speaks not only to our efforts to build a world-class research and teaching institute that attracts some of the top talent in the world, but also to the culture of collegiality and collaboration that our staff and faculty have worked very hard to create."

The U of A scored particularly high in areas of how the respondents felt about their peers, pay, management and policies, and tenure and promotion. As well, the magazine said a productive research environment and a fun, casual atmosphere is a commonly cited trait of the study's top institutions, as was collaboration.

Two alumnae called to the Order of Canada

Lorna Crozier and Jeanne Besner, two University of Alberta alumnae, have been named to the Order of Canada. Crozier will be inducted as an officer while Besner will be appointed a member at a ceremony to be held at a later date.

Besner, who received a bachelor of science (nursing) in 1977, a master's of health services administration in 1985 and a PhD in 1998, all from the U of A, is being recognized for her contributions to public health. She has held various positions throughout her career, including director of public health nursing and primary care development in the former Calgary Regional Health Authority. She has served as a board member of the Canadian Nurses' Association and president of the College & Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta. Besner, who recently retired from her position as director of Alberta Health Services' Health Systems and Workforce Research Unit, is currently the director of JFB Workforce Consulting. She continues to serves as an adjunct professor in the U of A's Faculty of Nursing.

Crozier, a celebrated poet who has written 17 books, received her master's of arts degree from the U of A in 1980. Since then, she has gone on to inspire and mentor other writers and artists as a teacher in places such as the Banff School of Fine Arts and the Saskatchewan Summer School of the Arts. Since 1991, Crozier has taught at the University of Victoria where she currently serves as the chair of the writing department.

Shining a headlight on deer crossings

University of Alberta researchers have produced a map of Edmonton that predicts the most likely locations where vehicles will collide with deer. The hot spots for deer-versus-vehicle collisions literally encircle Edmonton's entire city limit.

Insurance industry statistics show collisions between vehicles and deer can be fatal for drivers and their passengers, and the cost associated with such collisions is estimated to be upwards of $300 million a year in Canada.

Mark Boyce, ecology professor and co-author of the paper on this mapping project, says the most dangerous roadways share three features: natural vegetation, including bushes and trees that run right up to the roadside; roads that pass through a landscape of farm fields and forests, and high speed limits.

The researchers analyzed data from 260 deer/vehicle collisions in the Edmonton area between 2003 and 2007.

"When heavy vegetation runs right up to the roadway drivers don't have a chance to avoid a deer popping out of nowhere," said Boyce. "The solution is to groom natural vegetation along busy rural roads, creating a buffer zone where drivers can see grazing and approaching animals."

One year and counting for groundbreaking conference

Next summer in Edmonton, you can expect to find researchers from around the world talking about everything from human epigenetics to the influence of education and community structure on human development. The amazing cognitive and perceptual capacities of infants to the causes of cognitive decline in aging will be discussed, as will evaluation of effective anti-bullying strategies to the impact of late life caregiving, and much more, when the biennial meeting of the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development (ISSBD) will be held at the Shaw Convention Centre.

"We are thrilled that the world's leading scholars on human development will be coming to Edmonton", says Nancy Galambos, chair of the conference. Other highlights include invited addresses and invited symposia, a banquet at Fort Edmonton park, a reception and workshops for Early Career Scholars, and pre-conference workshops. More information on the conference and how to submit a proposal can be found at www.issbd2012.com.

folio
University of Alberta
on the Web

Editor's note: The next issue of folio will be Aug. 19.

www.ualberta.ca/folio/

University mourns loss of 'great connector'

Michael Brown

Ibrahim Abu-Rabi, a world-renowned expert on contemporary Muslim thought, a voice of moderation and great University of Alberta ambassador, died suddenly and unexpectedly during a visit to Jordan July 2. He was 55.

Born in Palestine in 1956, Abu-Rabi, who held dual citizenship in the United States and Israel, received a bachelor of arts degree from the Birzeit University in Palestine in 1980. He went on to get a master of arts in political science degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1982 before attending Temple University in Pennsylvania, where he completed a second master's degree, this time in religious studies, and a PhD in Islamic studies in 1987.

Ibrahim Abu-Rabi

Abu-Rabi left from Temple University for stops at Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Texas at Austin, before taking a post at the Hartford Seminary in Connecticut, where he was professor at the Macdonald Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations, beginning in 1991. He had a special interest in the study and practice of interfaith dialogue between the Islamic and Christian religious traditions, and specialized in issues of contemporary Islamic thought, particularly on religion and society, and mysticism.

In 2006, he was the Senior Fulbright Scholar in Singapore and Indonesia at the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. He was also the senior editor of *The Muslim World*.

In 2008, Abu-Rabi came to the U of A as the first holder of the Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities Chair in Islamic Studies, the first teaching and research chair of its kind in Canada.

"I am greatly saddened to learn of the sudden loss of one of our own, professor Ibrahim Abu-Rabi, chair of Islamic studies," said President Indira Samarasekera. "As a mentor and a teacher, he was well known for his passion for teaching and his dedication to building understanding between people of various faiths.

"He will be remembered for his enthusiasm for his work, his unwavering support of his colleagues and students, and his care and compassion for all."

Abu-Rabi was also a devoted researcher and a prolific writer, with dozens of titles to his credit, including his latest work, *The Contemporary Arab Reader on Political Islam* (University of Alberta Press, 2010), which is a collection of the writings of highly influential figures in the field of Islamism that attempts to address misunderstood notions of contemporary Islam.

In an interview done in the spring 2011 edition of *WOA (Work of Arts)*, the Faculty of Arts alumni magazine, about his latest work, Abu-Rabi said that, while there have been many books written in the West that purport to explain Islamism, virtually all have been written by westerners, and Islamist voices have remained largely absent.

"Most Islamist groups are pro-democracy and anti-violence, but you'd never know this from what's reported in the press," he said. "I wanted to give Islamists the chance to speak for themselves."

Abu-Rabi believed that education or "soft power" is the key to a better dialogue between the Muslim world and the West, and that the West needs to appreciate the diversity of contemporary Muslim cultural and linguistic practices, as well as the contemporary Muslim search for democracy.

Commonality and understanding were not just ideas that Abu-Rabi taught, researched and wrote about, but how he lived his life, says Michael Frishkopf, a professor in the Department of Music and friend of Abu-Rabi.

"He had so much appreciation from his colleagues and his students because he made every effort to connect with people at every level," said Frishkopf, adding that Abu-Rabi's web of relationships extended around the globe. "He was really warm and a wonderful man who was always trying to pull people together—he was a great connector. That's the kind of man he was; he was very much a public intellectual but he was interested in real-world applications.

"I think that's why [his death] has been such a devastating loss for so many people."

U of A undergraduate student Mustafa Farooq wrote in a letter how he was stuck by Abu-Rabi's "genial nature, his bearing, and his wisdom."

"He could meet anyone and instantaneously connect with them, and make them feel at ease." In addition, Farooq's letter talked about his mentor's devotion to both his research and his teaching.

"[Dr. Abu-Rabi] taught me that university research and involvement was about a struggle to make the world a better place, and that the struggle had to permeate every pore of your existence; and that included bringing the struggle to home."

classified ads

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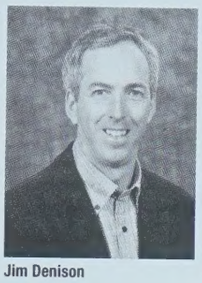
Best coaches open to self-examination

Jane Hurly

In the high-stakes world of elite-level athletics, coaches are more often than not regarded as the undisputed authority on what it takes to train an athlete to maximal performance potential. However, being placed on a pedestal often doesn't allow for proper reflection about their coaching practices or any margin of error when there are Olympic finals and medals at stake.



Jim Denison

As a consequence, coaches may not be doing the right thing for their athletes, says Jim Denison, co-author of a new paper on positive coaching and ethical practices for athlete development.

"Coaching is complex, continually changing and influenced greatly by the context, the athletes' circumstances and the developing relationship between the coach and the athlete," he said.

"Good coaching means thinking about these complexities and dealing with them positively, proactively and ethically."

Denison says one of the greatest dangers is that coaches can become set in their practises of working with athletes, positioning themselves as experts, who brook no criticism or questioning of their expertise. "They become entrenched in methodologies that worked in the past and they expect those methodologies to continue to work," says Denison.

"There's good research that shows that when coaches achieve this expert status they tend to want to maintain that," he says, "so admitting that you don't know becomes a threat to their expertise."

Denison, a sport sociologist and coach educator who directs the Canadian Athletics Coaching Centre, says coaches need to take an integrated approach to coaching and look at their athletes as individuals rather than trying to find a system or template they can apply to all and, importantly, learn to "problemetize" an issue before coming up with a solution. In essence, thinking critically about a problem, determining whether it is in fact a problem, and having the confidence to look at themselves because their behaviour might be contributing to a problem.

"Often the most successful coaches are the ones who are most willing to adopt a lifelong learning approach and to admit what they don't know," said Denison, who advocates "problem-setting," determining whether there is indeed a problem, before "problem-solving."

At the coaching centre, Denison and his team have developed a national coach mentorship program in partnership with Athletics Canada to enable this cultural shift from being the unquestioned expert to the thoughtful coach. "You cannot begin to 'problemetize' until you acknowledge and recognize that the knowledge you have is socially constructed and is based on a lot of take-for-granted ideas and traditions that have become dominant. We invite coaches to think more critically about how they think and what they do, to 'problemetize' their assumptions and to open their minds to look at their coaching practices critically and with the opportunity to try new things."

Organizer builds BRiC anew each year

Michael Davies-Venn

A Canada Research Chair is trying something unconventional to elevate the University of Alberta's profile as a humanities and social science research hub.

Imre Szeman, Tier One Canada Research Chair in Cultural Studies and English, consulted with colleagues across the country when he was looking for a more effective way to mobilize research at the university. He found that Canada Research Chairs typically create institutes with fixed research topics. But he wanted something dynamic in form, so he created the Banff Summer Residency for Research in Culture, a residency program where pressing cultural issues, some with political and economic ramifications, could be addressed . by researchers and "cultural producers," such as visual artists and writers, from across Canada and around the world.

"When you bring together a number of people who are all working in different ways on common topics, it creates all of the things that we try to support in the academies, such synergies between researchers," said Szeman. "I think new structures create new possibilities."

Szeman says the first residency program, held earlier this year, created an intellectual buzz by creating opportunities that will lead to future collaborative research among the 28 participants who came to Banff from around Canada and the rest of the world.

He adds advantage of having a new topic each year, as opposed to creating an institute with a fixed topic, is that it ensures that over time the program maintains its sense of urgency on the topics it will address.

"I want BRiC to be a forum for answering questions that are pressing and to find out what young researchers are doing in the humanities and social sciences, because we're working at the cutting edge," he said. "We want to know the things that are at issue; for example, to find out what the things are that worry people and cultural ramifications of those things."

This year's topic, *On the Commons; or, Believing-Feeling-Acting Together*, is fitting because it looked at history to find answers for the future, says Szeman, and that, historically, societies were organized around the "commons," but that societies now have less in "common" than before.

"The idea of the 'commons' is that no one owned anything, such as land or ideas and that was interrupted by property ownership. We live now in an era where we're so far from that concept and we get stuck a lot dealing with issues such as intellectual property, for example," said Szeman. "There are problems looming and there doesn't seem to be vocabularies to address them, good ideas on how we get from where we are now to where we might want to be. We need ideas beyond a national consciousness to deal with global crisis.

"I think BRiC[this program] will make the U of A stand out a bit more in the humanities and social sciences research," Szeman said.

Iconic U of A classical music composer dies

Michael Brown

When famed University of Alberta composer Malcolm Forsyth came to Canada from his home in South Africa in 1968, he brought with him the ingredients for a musical sound that would both shake the Canadian classical music establishment and thrust him into a spotlight he was only too happy to share with the people around him. Forsyth, an extraordinary composer, mentor and colleague who epitomized loyalty, died July 5 after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was 74.

Malcolm Forsyth

"Malcolm Forsyth made a major contribution to music at the University of Alberta, in Edmonton, in Canada and throughout the world," said Leslie Cormack, dean of the Faculty of Arts. "During his 34 years teaching in the Department of Music, Dr. Forsyth influenced generations of composers and musicians and helped make Edmonton the great music city that it has become."

Although Forsyth became internationally known as one of the great Canadian conductors and composers, he was a musician first. Born in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, in 1936, Forsyth picked up the trombone and seemingly never put it down. He took it to the University of Cape Town where he received a bachelor of music degree in 1963. Although Forsyth would change his major from trombone to conducting and composition, he played the trombone in the Cape Town Symphony Orchestra while simultaneously doing a master's in music 1966 and his PhD 1969.

Forsyth came to Canada in 1968 and joined the U of A's Department of Music, taking on a full load teaching theory, composition, conducting and trombone. He went on to hold the position of Composer-in-Residence and conductor of the University Symphony Orchestra. He was also a member of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra for 11 years—three as bass trombonist and eight as principal.

It was, however, Forsyth's work as a composer that will stand the test of time. He is the only Canadian composer to have been nominated for six Best Classical Composition Juno Awards, receiving three Juno Awards in 1987, 1995 and 1998 for Atayoskewin, Sketches from Natal and Electra Rising, respectively. He was named Composer of the Year in 1988 by the Canadian Music Council, and in 2003 was made a Member of the Order of Canada, as well as winner of the Queen's Jubilee Medal.

While Forsyth had obvious gifts, it was his deep respect for the listener that drove his sound.

"I always have had a sense of responsibility to the audience," said Forsyth in 1996. "I am myself a dedicated audience member, dedicated to the idea of concert music that sweeps people away . . . everything I've done is with that experience in mind."

Acting chair in the Department of Music Janet Scott Hoyt, whose first year as an undergraduate student studying music at the U of A was also in 1968, says Forsyth's ability to make music accessible to the all was his true genius.

"He was South African, so he came to Canada with the sounds and the rhythms of South Africa in his veins," said Scott Hoyt. "A lot of his music incorporated the rhythms of the music there, and he made it his own; he infused it into something that wasn't African anymore—it was Canadian, but it had that special flavour of something from afar."

Besides having charismatic, bigger-than-life presence in the department, Scott Hoyt says Forsyth was a great teacher.

"He was a fine composition teacher because he really reacted well to talent," she said, adding he was an uncompromising but very encouraging and stimulating mentor to young students. "What was striking is how many of his students went on to become professional musicians.

"I'm so glad to have had the opportunity to know him and be affected by that big brain and his big creative spirit."

Although Forsyth retired from the U of A in 2002, he never stopped working. His catalogue of 140 pieces, including three symphonies, was topped off in June when he travelled to Ottawa to attend the world premiere of his final work, *A Ballad of Canada*, performed by the National Arts Centre Orchestra, which employs Forsyth's daughter, Amanda, as principal cellist.

U of A choral music professor Len Ratzlaff was hopeful that his long-time friend would push on to hear the U of A's Department of Music premier *A Ballad of Canada* in November. The show will go on, Ratzlaff says, but not without some heavy hearts.

"He really was a great colleague," said Ratzlaff. "He was the kind of guy where you could just pick up where you left off. He would stop everything if you would be in the hallway. He never put anyone off as though he didn't have time for them. As a young teacher, I learned a lot from him. I must say that I am missing him a lot."

laurels

University of Alberta medical researcher **Peter Smith** has just been named one of the recipients of the Neuropathic Pain Research Awards. Smith, who works at the university's Department of Pharmacology, is researching the use of new medication combinations to reduce the effect of neuropathic pain in laboratory rats.

Rod Wasylishen, professor in the Department of Chemistry, has received the 2011 Eastern Analytical Symposium Award for outstanding achievements in magnetic resonance.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on Express News at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until July 28

Narrative Explorations in Visual Communication Design. Exhibition of students works. Photography instructor: Eleanor Lazare. Design instructor: Lara Minja. Foyer, Rutherford South Rutherford Library, North and South (Humanities and Social Sciences)

Until Aug. 9

Big Basket Bonanza. To enter, drop by 209 HUB Mall Administration Office. This contest is open to all University of Alberta Students and Staff. Value $400. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. 209 HUB Mall HUB International.

July 19–21, 26

Applying for NSERC Discovery Grants Engineering Seminar Series: Civil, Industrial and Systems Engineering. Given the new evaluation process at NSERC, this workshop is a must for those who want to submit high quality applications in this fall's 2011 NSERC Discovery Grant Program. 1:30–3:30 p.m., Natural Resources Engineering Facility, North Campus.

July 20

McLuhan's Birthday. On the eve of the 100th birthday of Marshall McLuhan, don't miss a festive evening, featuring performances, special displays, and cupcakes, Art Gallery of Alberta, Churchill Square, Edmonton, 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. This event is part of the Herbert Marshall McLuhan Edmonton Centenary, hosted by the Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta.

July 27

5th annual WISEST Golf Tournament. The 5th annual WISEST Golf Tournament being held at the Links in Spruce Grove. It's an excellent opportunity to network and socialize with members of local industry, government, and academia all while supporting WISEST. Breakfast and registration begins at 7 a.m., shotgun start to Texas Scramble begins at 8 a.m.

Aug. 5–6

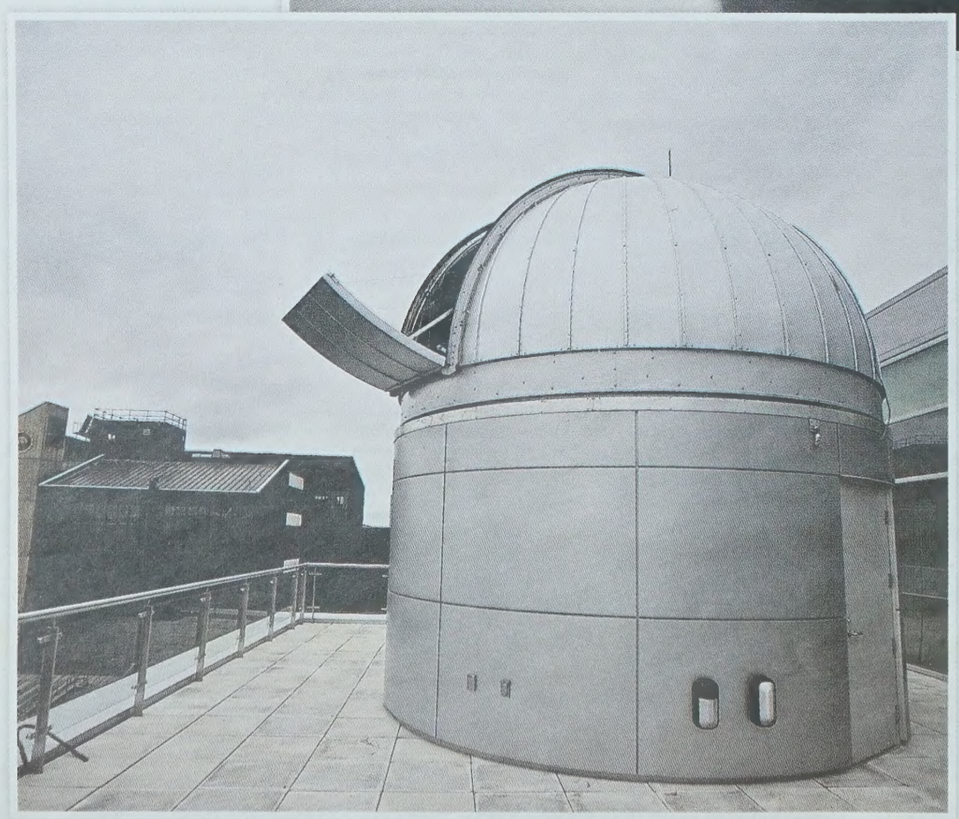
Department of Pharmacology, 50th Anniversary Symposium. In celebration of the Department of Pharmacology's 50th Anniversary, this symposium welcomes pharmacology staff, students and alumni. 8:30 a.m. Allard Family Lecture Theatre Katz Group Centre for Pharmacy and Health Research.

Aug. 10

A Taste of Technology 2.0. A Taste of Technology will showcase excellence and innovation in teaching with technology at the University of Alberta. A keynote will be presented by Larry Cuban from Stanford University entitled "Change without Reform: Technology Access, Use and Outcomes in U.S. Higher Education". 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m. TELUS Centre.

star light star bright

The University of Alberta opened up its newest observatory atop the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science July 5. The observatory will house three telescopes, with a range of diameters of 12, 14 and 20 inches.



Photos: Michael Holly, Marketing and Communications

the BackPage

folio
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Page 2
Where's the beef?
Researchers finds a way to turn beef byproducts into plastics

Page 2
Fighting obesity
New index takes into account a number of factors

Page 9
The 'Alberta Model'
Athletics goes back to its roots

Volume 48 Issue 22 | August 19, 2011 | www.ualberta.ca/folio

11 doctoral students earn Canada's most prestigious scholarship

Folio staff

The Government of Canada announced Aug. 3 that 11 University of Alberta graduate students have received 2011 Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships, Canada's most prestigious scholarship for doctoral students.

The Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship program aims to attract and retain world-class doctoral students by supporting students who demonstrate both leadership skills and a high standard of scholarly achievement in graduate studies. Vanier scholars receive $50,000 annually for up to three years, and each was chosen as a result of their demonstrated leadership skills and high standard of scholarly achievement in graduate studies in the social sciences and humanities, natural sciences, engineering and health research.

"I am so thrilled to congratulate U of A's Vanier Graduate Scholarship winners and am pleased that these 11 exceptional students are or soon will be part of our community of learning and discovery," said U of A President Indira Samarasekera. "Working at the very cutting edge of their disciplines, graduate students are a vital life force in the academy and a major source of technical and social innovation within society."

Hannah O'Rourke is the first nursing student at the U of A to receive the award, and only the second nationwide in the discipline of nursing.

O'Rourke's area of research is in knowledge translation as a mechanism to improve well-being and quality of life for older adults with dementia. The award will be used to fund her doctoral research project, Investigating relationships among RAI-MDS quality indicators for residents in long-term care, which will examine the criteria for elder care used in long-term care settings across Canada.

Continued on page 2

The all-seeing eye

Michael Holly / Marketing & Communications

Arthur Thibault gets a third eye on his science experiment Aug. 16 at the joint DiscoverE-Faculty of Physical Education camp called Science Fitness Intermediate.

Researchers receive more than $5 million in funding

Michael Brown

More than 90 University of Alberta research projects worth more than $5 million were named as the federal government's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada released the results of the 2011–12 research grants and scholarship programs. SSHRC is the federal agency that promotes and supports post-secondary-based research and training in the humanities and social sciences.

Jacqueline Leighton

Of the awards, 12 standard research grants were awarded to U of A-involved projects as part of the Insight Development Grants program, which enables the highest levels of research excellence in Canada by building knowledge and understanding, and by facilitating knowledge sharing and collaboration across research disciplines, universities and all sectors of society.

Jacqueline Leighton, professor in the Department of Educational Psychology, and director of the Centre for Research in Applied Measurement and Evaluation, received $110,000 for her research project, which focuses on understanding how junior-high and high-school student attitudes toward standardized testing impacts their engagement in learning and intentions to drop out of high school.

"At the core of our economic and societal success is the ability of individuals to contribute meaningfully to their work environment," said Leighton. "For this reason, we need to ensure that the learning environments in which individuals are expected to learn skills for work are constructive and healthy."

Grad students took home the bulk of the U of A's 2011–2012 SSHRC awards, which included 39 Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada master's scholarships, each worth $17,500; 29 Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada doctoral scholarships, each with worth $105,000 over three years; 18 SSHRC doctoral fellowships worth $20,000 per year for up to four years; and two SSHRC post-doctoral fellowships: $38,000 to Konis Benson for a project entitled *Struggles within struggles: Histories of development, displacement, and demobilization of African women's movements for urban survival in South Africa's past and future* and $76,000 to Viktor Taki for his project entitled *Tsar and Sultan: The Ottoman Empire under the Russian Eyes.*

U of A Insight Development Grant winners

- Mark Gierl, Department of Educational Psychology ($49,799): Using automatic item generation to develop digital content for computerized assessments in mathematics and science.
- Beyza Ural Marchand, Department of Economics ($16,487): Globalization and gender inequality in China.
- Keavy Martin, Department of English and Film Studies ($62,924): The role of phonetic reduction on spoken word recognition.
- Roxanne Hard, Augustana Campus ($39,210): Still searching: southern singer-songwriters' American dreams.
- Russell Cobb, Department of Modern Languages ($61,605): Edmonton pipelines: narrating digital urbanism.
- Ying Cui, Department of Educational Psychology ($61,226): On the classification consistency and accuracy of cognitive diagnostic assessment.
- Sarah Moore, Alberta School of Business ($34,600): Linguistic Mimicry in online word of mouth.
- Siobhan Byrne, Department of Political Science ($34,411): Code pink alert: Transnational feminist peace activism in the post 9/11 period.
- Ujjayant Chakravorty, Alberta School of Business and Department of Economics ($69,900): Distributional impacts of biofuel mandates.
- Randall Morck, Alberta School of Business ($69,600): Examination of regional brain changes occurring during cognitive choices: An fMRI study utilizing an investment paradigm.
- Geoffrey Rockwell, Department of Philosophy, is collaborating on a project led by researchers at McMaster University ($74,500): Voyeur notebooks: investigating the feasability of a literate programming model for the humanities.

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folio

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

The University of Alberta maintains a database of all alumni. This database is used to send you news about the U of A, including folio and *New Trail*, invitations to special events and requests for support. On Sept. 1, 1999, post-secondary institutions were required to comply with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation of the province of Alberta. In accordance with this legislation, please respond to one of the following options:

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❑ Remove my name from the folio list.

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No response means the University of Alberta assumes an individual wishes to remain on the mailing list.

Where's the beef? Researcher finds it in plastics

Bev Betkowski

They look a little like fake cookies, the kind you'd find in a child's toy oven, but the chocolate brown plastic discs created by University of Alberta researcher David Bressler and his lab represent the future of ingenious recycling.

Using the throwaway parts of beef carcasses that were sidelined from the value-added production process after bovine spongiform encephalopathy devastated the industry in 2003, Bressler, an associate professor in the U of A's Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science, has collaborated with industry, government and other researchers to forge cattle proteins into heavy-duty plastics that could soon be used in everything from car parts to CD cases.

The University of Alberta is the only post-secondary facility to be approved by the Canada Food Inspection Agency to conduct research involving turning high-risk proteins into safe, sustainable materials.

By finding a way to convert these animal byproducts into plastics for industrial use, Bressler and his team, which also includes Phillip Choi, a professor in the U of A's Faculty of Engineering, hope to divert tonnes of protein waste from landfills across North America, shift to using renewable resources instead of petrochemicals to make plastics, and boost flagging profit levels in the cattle industry.

"If we can get more fundamental value back into the rendering process, it will help the livestock industry more than any government policy," Bressler says.

A patent has been filed on the thermal process used to turn protein from bovine byproducts into plastics. Using high temperatures, the proteins are broken into small pieces then cross-linked to other protein molecules to create a network that forms a rigid structure.

The new plastics from Bressler's lab are currently being tested by The Woodbridge group, a car parts manufacturer. Current funding is focused on research that further experiments with the product, to see if the plastics can be mixed with renewable fibres such as hemp. If successful, the resulting bio-composite material could be used in high-strength materials such as building structural supports.

The bio-friendly plastics are poised to become an innovative addition to the manufacturing industry, Bressler believes. "The plastic industry is under pressure to increase the renewable content in its products. As a result, this project offers the opportunity to do just that, and at the same time help send value back to rural Alberta and the beef sector."

Bressler's work is supported by the Alberta Prion Research Institute, PrioNet Canada and the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency.

Bev Betkowski

David Bressler led a team that has discovered a way to turn beef byproducts into plastics.

A new tool in the fight against obesity

Quinn Phillips

A new diagnostic method developed by researchers in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta is proving it can be a reliable tool for health professionals to predict an overweight or obese patient's risk of death and even the degree to which they need to lose weight.

The tool is called the Edmonton Obesity Staging System, a set of questions and criteria that help classify obese people, created by obesity expert Arya Sharma in the Department of Medicine. It is used in addition to body mass index or BMI, which is commonly used by doctors to classify overweight and obese patients. While BMI is simply calculated from a patient's height and weight, this new system asks important questions about the state of health of the patient including medical, mental and functional problems related to their excess weight.

"Within each level of BMI you can have patients who have no obesity-related health problems at all or people who have a lot of obesity-related health problems," said Sharma. "If you're going to make medical decisions about who needs treatment and how much treatment somebody needs—just answering the question about whether this patient even needs to lose weight—knowing how big someone is isn't actually that helpful."

Sharma and colleague Raj Padwal, also from the U of A, published two papers in August. In one, published in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, the pair looked at a large representative sample of the United States population, which showed that higher EOSS scores were a strong predictor of increased mortality in both the overall population and a subset of individuals considered eligible for bariatric surgery—independent of their BMI, waist circumference or the presence of metabolic syndrome. The study also shows that BMI alone doesn't help predict who will live longer.

"This tool puts an emphasis on individualized treatment needs, depending on how sick or at-risk a patient is," says Sharma. "Because obesity requires long-term treatment and can be costly, knowing which patients need to be most urgently treated to improve their health and which do not, can save health-care dollars."

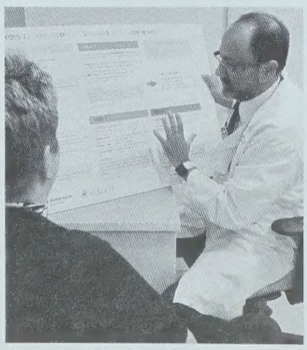
Additionally, in a paper released on Aug. 15 in the journal *Applied Physiology, Nutrition and Metabolism*, these researchers, along with investigators from York University in Toronto, categorized 6,000 obese Americans according to EOSS criteria. They compared their mortality risk to 23,000 lean individuals over a 16-year span and found that obese individuals with a low EOSS score were found to have the same mortality risk as lean individuals, and were less likely to die from cardiovascular causes.

"We were pleased to see our results were quite robust in the sense that we have two studies that show that the Edmonton Obesity Staging System predicts mortality independent of BMI," said Padwal.

The pair's next validation study will ask doctors how well the staging system works.

"We are now looking at the staging system in actual medical practise," said Sharma. "We're using it, for example, in the bariatric clinic at the Royal Alexandra Hospital and further work to see how this can best be used in clinical practice."

- with files from Brad Hussey, Canadian Obesity Network



Obesity expert Arya Sharma explains the Edmonton Obesity Staging System

U of A lands 11 Vanier scholarships

Continued from page 1

"These quality 'indicators' represent the proportion of residents within a long-term care unit or facility that experienced a particular problem, such as pain, falls, or depression, during the last three months," said O'Rourke. "There are 25 indicators, and most facilities can focus on improving just one or two indicator areas per year."

O'Rourke says she plans to observe residents with dementia to determine what quality indicator areas contribute most consistently and intensely to resident well-being and quality of life. "These indicator areas may be seen as higher priority when caring for persons with dementia, providing guidance for clinicians to use the indicators to improve quality of resident care."

The award will also allow O'Rourke to focus on her research full time and to continue to volunteer with people who have dementia through community involvement within a clinical setting.

"Volunteering gives me the ability to sit and visit people with dementia, to listen to them and hear their stories, allowing me to get to know them on a more personal level. When working as a paid clinician, you don't always have that luxury of time."

Ultimately, O'Rourke says she would like to develop a research program that focuses on care for people with dementia that will allow health-care providers to be as responsive to dementia patients' needs as possible.

"When patients, due to their impairments, can't speak up for themselves, health-care providers need to put extra attention into their care. I hope my research will guide providers as to which areas of care they may want to focus their attention on."

2011-12 Vanier scholars

- Matthew Benesch, Department of Biochemistry: The role of lipid phosphate phosphatases in attenuating cancer cell survival and migration.
- Lauren Bortolotti, Department of Biological Sciences: Recovery of ecosystem structure and function in restored Prairie wetlands.
- Stephen Cochrane, Department of Chemistry: Antimicrobial agents based on amino-vinyl cysteine lantibiotics.
- Natasha Egeli, Department of Educational Psychology: Hope-focused group interventions for people limited by chronic pain: A grounded theory study.
- Robert Found, Department of Biological Sciences: Variation in individual elk behavioural syndromes, and management applications to problems of habituation and loss of migration.
- Derek Gladwin, Department of English and Film Studies: Re-shifting the bog: the impact of boglands in Irish literature and the cultural imagination.
- Hadley Friedland, Faculty of Law: Reclaiming the language of law; exploring the contemporary articulation and application of Cree and other indigenous legal principles in Canada.
- Amanda Kahn, Department of Biological Sciences: The role of glass sponge reefs in nutrient cycling: inputs, outputs and evidence of population changes through the millennia.
- Colleen Mortimer, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences: Force balance modeling and calving dynamics of the Belcher Glacier, Devon Island, Nunavut.
- Hannah O'Rourke, Faculty of Nursing: Investigating relationships among RAI-MDS quality indicators for residents in long-term care.
- Diana Stralberg, Department of Biological Sciences: Multi-scale modelling of boreal breeding bird distribution and abundance to evaluate potential climate and land-use change impacts.

New treatment for children with cerebral palsy looks beyond motor skills

Folio Staff

A successful new rehabilitation approach to treating children with cerebral palsy puts its focus on where a child lives and plays, not just improving the child's balance, posture and movement skills.

Called a "context-focused intervention," University of Alberta and McMaster University researchers report in a new study this approach is just as beneficial as traditional child-focused therapy, offering parents an additional treatment option for their child.

The study is the first randomized trial to examine the effects of therapy focused on changing a child's task or environment, not the child. It appeared in the July issue of the medical journal *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology*.

Context-focused and child-focused therapies were evaluated in a randomized controlled trial of 128 children with cerebral palsy ranging in age from one year to almost six years old. The children, from 19 different rehabilitation centres in Ontario and Alberta, received one of the two approaches for six months. Therapy was provided by occupational therapists and physical therapists. Between assessments at six and nine months, they returned to their regular therapy schedule.

Johanna Darrah

Johanna Darrah, a professor of physical therapy in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, teamed up with Mary Law, professor in McMaster's School of Rehabilitation Science and co-founder of the McMaster's CanChild Centre for Childhood Disability Research on the study.

The study found no difference between the therapy approaches for the outcome of parent empowerment. If both approaches are equally effective, therapists and families are able to discuss the treatment approach that best fits the intervention goals for their child and their family situation.

Cerebral palsy is caused by damage in the brain before or just after birth that results in problems with muscle tone and movement, and impacts ability to perform everyday activities. More than 50,000 Canadians have cerebral palsy, which occurs in about two of 1,000 babies.

During the study, parents in both groups received general information and education about their child's disability as well as specific strategies to practice at home.

In the child-focused approach, therapists identified the underlying impairment—tone, posture, range of motion—and provided therapy to improve the child's skills and abilities.

Emphasis in the context therapy approach was on changing the task or environment. For example, one parent's goal was for their child to finger-feed himself Cheerios independently. The therapist experimented with putting peanut butter on the tips of his fingers so that the Cheerios would stick to it. The child was successful in one intervention session, even though he did not have the fine grasp to pick them up without it. Having experienced success, the child went on to be able to finger feed Cheerios by himself.

Darrah said the experience with context therapy was positive: "The benefits of working in the child's natural environment were striking."

Darrah added researchers found this approach was more challenging with children who have a severe disability, as some therapists felt that by not providing hands-on treatment, the approach is not true therapy. However, the study found that the context approach was equally effective for children with mild or severe cerebral palsy.

> "The benefits of working in the child's natural environment were striking."
>
> Johanna Darrah

The study was supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health in the United States and the Alberta Centre for Child Family and Community Research.

- with files from McMaster University.

After-hours care affects ER use in Leduc

Sandra Pysklywyc

Health researchers at the University of Alberta have uncovered an association between the number of emergency-room visits and the availability of an after-hours care clinic.

David Jones, a graduate student in the School of Public Health, along with Linda Carroll, professor in the School of Public Health, and Leonard Frank, executive director of the Leduc Beaumont Devon Primary Care Network, looked at 28 months of data taken from Leduc, an Edmonton satellite city with a population of about 20,000 people. The statistics took into consideration non-urgent and semi-urgent patient visits to the Leduc Hospital emergency department for 14 months prior to the opening of an after-hours clinic and 14 months after the clinic opened.

Based on this study, "there was a 40 per cent reduction in semi-urgent patients using the emergency department," said Jones.

Semi-urgent patients are classified, for example, as those that have suffered minor trauma, or who have abdominal pain or acute joint swelling. Non-urgent patients typically suffer from ailments such as nasal congestion or chronic low back pain, says the Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale.

> "This study provides further evidence that offering [clinics] can positively impact emergency department use."
>
> David Jones

The after-hours clinic is operated by the Leduc Beaumont Devon Primary Care Network, a joint partnership between participating family physicians in the area and Alberta Health Services, said Frank. "Primary care networks are based on the idea of finding local solutions to local needs and this clinic is a tremendous example of that."

The family physicians who work at the Leduc Hospital noted that increasingly patients were being seen in the emergency departments who could have been better served in a primary care setting such as the after-hours clinic. "Having a more appropriate use of resources was important to the physicians in trying to best serve their patients," said Frank.

Jones agrees. "These two types of patients, it has been argued in the literature, can be well served in a physician's office rather than an emergency department, but they contribute to emergency department overcrowding."

The after-hours clinic provided access to a physician between the hours of 6–9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

"This study provides further evidence that offering these services can positively impact emergency department use, and while we have to be careful about population size and intervention, we did see a definite reduction in emergency room visits," said Jones.

Jones is currently working with the Leduc Beaumont Devon Primary Care Network and the Health Quality Council of Alberta to examine his findings further. The study was recently published in the *Journal of Primary Care and Community Health*.

U of A gets share of prion funding

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta researchers investigating prions and prion diseases have been included in a new national funding program supporting the work done at nine universities across Canada.

PrioNet Canada, a centre of excellence that distributes government funding for research into the transmissible and fatal neurological diseases of both humans and animals, handed out $2.9 million in July. Prion disease is an abnormal folding or mutation of normal cellular proteins in the brain. The cause isn't known and there is no cure.

The prion funding received by the U of A is focused on the neurodegenerative condition known as chronic wasting disease. It's a transmissible disease affecting animals identified as cervids, members of the deer family.

Biologist Debbie McKenzie, from the university's Alberta Centre for Prions and Protein Folding Diseases, will focus on the structure of effected proteins. "In chronic wasting disease, the proteins fold in different ways and that structure may determine how long it takes an animal to get sick and how it transmits the disease to other animals," said McKenzie. "Understanding that is fundamental to combating CWD."

McKenzie's research team received $300,000 from PrioNet.

Ellen Goddard, a researcher with U of A's Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology, says there's no evidence yet that CWD has been transmitted to humans and she wants to keep it that way. Goddard is co-lead of research team that will look into ways of managing chronic wasting disease in cervids in the wild and those fenced in on deer and elk farms.

"We have to find ways of managing CWD because right now there doesn't seem to be a vaccine or other fix," said Goddard. "We are looking at the impacts of CWD and its economic effect on tourism as it affects both hunters and families coming to enjoy the outdoors." Goddard says managing CWD can include participation by hunters. "We ask hunters to donate the heads of deer kills and other cervids so we can monitor the herd conditions in certain areas. It's a form of surveillance."

PrioNet awarded Goddard's group $600,000 over two years to conduct their research.

Goddard says the funding for all areas of study into CWD is very important. "The spread of CWD is inexorable. It's in cervid populations in Alberta and Saskatchewan, and there's no reason yet why it won't continue spreading eastward."

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Christopher Ippolito, whose name was drawn as part of folio's July 15 "Are You a Winner?" contest. He correctly identified the photo in question as being the gramophone located at 3-47 in the Old Arts Building. For his correct answer, Ippolito has won a CD gift pack from folkwaysAlive! complete with a copy of "Seeing the World of Sound: The Cover Art of Folkways Records."

Up for grabs this week is a swanky evergreen golf shirt. To win it, simply identify where the above shed is located and email your answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, Sept. 1, and you will be entered into the draw.

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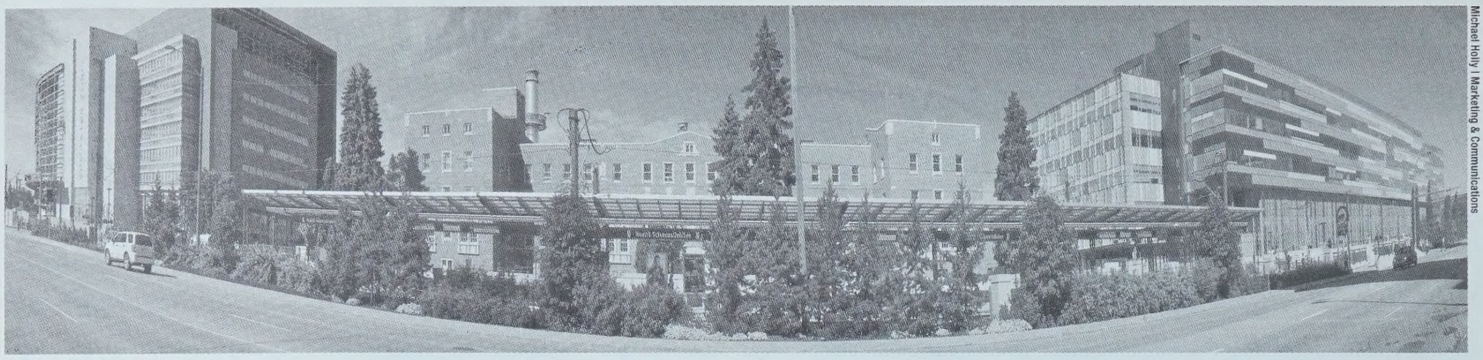
Skin: Server Eczema/Psoriasis; Alopecia, Hives, Shingles, etc...
Others: hemorrhoid, Diabetic-Gangrene, Raynaud's S, Rheumatism...
Etc....



Michael Holly | Marketing & Communications

Aug. 31 deadline approaches for changes to procedures for copyright compliance

Ernie Ingles, vice-provost and chief librarian

On July 29, the University of Alberta decided to withdraw from the Access Copyright licensing regime effective Aug. 31. The decision was based on a thorough analysis by the university's Copyright Office and legal counsel. Our analysis considered a number of factors including the changing technology environment, the increase in the electronic resources licensed by the University of Alberta Libraries, as well as licenses for other mediums.

It was determined that Access Copyright's proposed licence, with its substantially increased tariff and its intrusive reporting and monitoring elements, was less useful for the academic community than in the past.

The U of A, along with other universities across Canada, is supporting the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada's opposition to this tariff increase.

Effective Aug. 31, the implications of this decision are:

- Our agreement with Access Copyright, an organization that has dealt with issues of copyright clearance for copying of published works in the past, will end.
- Course materials (i.e. course packs and handouts) for the fall 2011 term, compiled under the Access Copyright Tariff, will need to be printed before Aug. 31.
- To ensure course packs are printed before Aug. 31, they should be submitted to SUBprint as soon as possible.
- SUBprint will continue to develop course packs into the future, but will need lengthier lead times in order to seek rights and permissions directly from source.
- Distribution of class material of published works, including course packs, for future terms will require an assessment of whether it is an allowable use under the Copyright Act or an existing specific license, or whether specific permission of the copyright owner is required.

When operating under the Access Copyright Tariff, most of the copying undertaken by academic and administrative staff, as well as students, was permitted under this licence. Without the license, more reliance will be placed on the fair dealing exemption under the Copyright Act, and specific licenses (existing or newly sought). The Copyright Office has provided guidelines at www.copyright.ualberta.ca to explain in detail how to proceed correctly with your intended copying. In addition, the Copyright Office will have staff resources to seek the necessary permissions for you. Lead time is required when seeking rights and permissions and thus we would ask that you submit your request as far ahead of your class requirement as might be possible.

As we move towards the Aug. 31 deadline, we will continue to develop and implement processes to support the campus community in taking appropriate steps to assure consistent application of legal requirements through campus. Ongoing information sessions explaining the changes and how to proceed in the new environment will be available for faculties, departments and other academic and administrative units, and can be booked by contacting the Copyright Office at copyright@ualberta.ca .

In addition to distribution through course packs and handouts, instructors are asked to consider the following alternatives:

- Adopting a textbook for the course (for information and assistance contact Paul Wilde at the University Bookstore 780-492-0433)
- Linking to electronic resources that are licensed by the Libraries.
- Putting material on reserve at the Libraries. (www.library.ualberta.ca/reserveroom)
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Deans, directors and department heads are asked to keep the need for copyright clearance in mind when hiring new instructors, most particularly sessional instructors or adjunct faculty not conversant with the emerging practices In particular, there is likely need to inform appointments made close to the start of the school year, where often there is need that course material be assembled quickly In addition, it is important to ensure that copyright information is shared with all instructors, or other), who may be outside normal information distribution channels.

Thank you for your ongoing attention to these matters. Your patience is much appreciated.

Canada's leading health centre continues its tradition promoting healthier lifestyles

The University of Alberta can be a complicated entity with many moving parts. University 101 exists to assist the campus community in better understanding who does what and how things get done at the U of A.

Michael Davies-Venn

The numbers of inactive Albertans are on the rise, and Judith Down says that has to change.

She is the director of the Alberta Centre for Active Living, a joint initiative between the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation and the Government of Alberta, which has, for the last two decades, worked to advocate for healthier lifestyle choices for Albertans.

The centre is also a largely unknown, but vital hotbed of research at the U of A.

Down says a 2011 survey on physical activity by the centre shows that only 54.3 per cent of adult Albertans are physically active enough to gain health benefits. This is down from 58.5 per cent in 2009. "We're seeing the chronic diseases that have the common risk factor of physical inactivity continuing to increase. We have a smaller proportion of Albertans who are active enough to get health benefits," Down said. "It's a reflection of people's lifestyles and our society these days where physical activity has been engineered out of our lives."

To address what Down sees as a decrease in overall activity and the resulting negative health impacts, the centre and the government work together, says Down, to address issues around inactivity. One of the ways they are working together is with provincial policymakers concerned with urban planning.

"With respect to urban planning, there are different ways of designing neighbourhoods that encourage people to walk and not have to drive their cars to go to the store, which is an example of an environmental policy-level change that we could see that should be happening." The centre also works with the public, including researchers and practitioners such as physical education teachers in schools, government and seniors' housing, in order to promote and support physical activities.

"We provide information to people working in the field who need to know more about why people need to be physically active, and what kinds of policy initiatives that could result in Albertans being more active," she said.

"One of our primary roles is what we call knowledge translation. We have some of the world leaders in research in physical activity right at the U of A and among that group, most of them are based in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation."

University 101

Outside the faculty, the U of A continues to support the centre through collaborative interdisciplinary research, says Down, and that the university also supports the centre administratively, with the Faculty of Physical and Recreation's dean, Kerry Mummery, serving as chair of the centre.

"We monitor research done by U of A researchers, and we invite them to come speak at our events. The collaborative approach has kept our work going. And the U of A is a hotbed of information in our field, that's why we don't find too much trouble finding news we can deliver."

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
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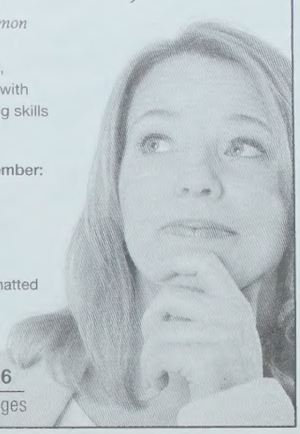

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Send folio a high-resolution photo that tells the story of your summer adventures, misadventures or time spent relaxing and we will use it in a future Back Page photo story.

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Syncrude tops list of donors looking to help expand youth outreach programs

Richard Cairney

A gift from Syncrude Canada Ltd. will help expand University of Alberta community outreach programs that encourage young people to explore engineering, science and technology.

The $500,000 donation, to be shared by the Faculty of Engineering's DiscoverE engineering science and technology program and the U of A's Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science and Technology, or WISEST, was announced July 13 by Syncrude President and CEO Scott Sullivan.

"We're very proud to support the University of Alberta in the work they do to provide high-quality educational opportunities for youth," said Sullivan. "Participating in these hands-on learning programs helps students grow and succeed in the careers of their choice. We're committed to life-long education and by investing in these student programs, we support their journeys of discovery and learning."

"DiscoverE provides thousands of young people with great experiences and opportunities to learn about engineering and technology in a way that is fun and educational," said David Lynch, dean of the faculty. "This generous and increased support that Syncrude is providing will have an impact on current and future generations of young students that is both enabling and enlightening. With this gift we will be able to provide expanded programs to excite the imaginations of many more students."

> "We're very proud to support the University of Alberta in the work they do to provide high-quality educational opportunities for youth."
>
> Scott Sullivan

Chair of the WISEST program, Denise Hemmings, a researcher in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, says the gift from Syncrude will support three additional student summer research placements and fund a new initiative aimed at cultivating an interest in science, engineering and technology among Aboriginal youth in northern Alberta.

"We couldn't be doing this without Syncrude's help," said Hemmings. "We'll be able to take WISEST programs out to these communities, encouraging young students in Grades 6 and 7 to stay in school by showing them that there are really cool jobs in engineering, science, and technology that they can do even in their own communities."

The announcement included poster presentations by WISEST summer research students, science demonstrations and a tour of a DiscoverE camp where youngsters were busy building a marble maze.

Camp participants Addison Gugenheimer, 12, and Kieran Nelson, 10, demonstrated their marble maze for Syncrude CEO Sullivan, who said he was impressed with the job. For their part, Gugenheimer and Nelson said the DiscoverE camps provide them with a fun learning environment.

"What I like about it is that they give you a project but you have the freedom to do it any way you want," said Nelson. "At other camps I've been to they say 'Do this.' But here, there is no one certain way to do something. They let you decide."

Syncrude's support of WISEST came just one day after the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada stepped forward with $93,900 over three years to help fund WISEST.

In early June, WISEST's years of mentorship was acknowledged by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research with a cheque for $10,000. Hemmings couldn't be happier.

"It is always a relief when many of our long-time sponsors indicate yet again that they are willing to support WISEST programs."

Researcher discovers good and bad in Alberta Aboriginal diabetes research

Quinn Phillips

Research done in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry has some good news and some bad news when it comes to rates of diabetes in status Aboriginals in Alberta.

The good news: the increase in rates of Type 2 diabetes in status Aboriginals appears to be slowing compared with the increase in the general population.

"We are cautiously optimistic that the rates seem to not be increasing as fast in comparison to the general population," said Richard Oster, a PhD student in the Department of Medicine at the University of Alberta. "There's a hint that maybe this epidemic is slowing down a bit."

The bad news: the rate of increasing diabetes amongst male status Aboriginals is growing faster compared to their female counterparts. This is starting to mirror the general population, which sees more men with Type 2 diabetes than women.

But according to Oster, the most alarming statistic from this study, published in the July edition of the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, was the overall mortality rate of status Aboriginal people. For those with diabetes the death rates decreased in both status Aboriginals and the general population. But for those without diabetes, mortality rates remained unchanged among status Aboriginals, despite the fact they decreased in the general Alberta population, a result that shocked Oster.

The researchers collected the data for their study from the Alberta Health and Wellness administrative databases. They looked at trends between 1995 and 2007 for Albertans aged 20 and over.

"It's important to do surveillance of disease to help make funding and policy decisions," said Oster about the study.

Oster became passionate about Aboriginal health when he started working as a research assistant four years ago. He hopes his ongoing work will help other people become advocates for the population and its health.

"I would hope that the general population would just become more aware of Aboriginal health," says Oster. "This study doesn't say anything about their history but maybe it'll spark someone's interest to be a little sympathetic.

"They're Canadians and many are suffering, many live below the poverty line, and many are almost living in third world conditions, yet they're Canadian citizens."

He says he will continue to study the epidemiology of diabetes in status Aboriginal populations. He also wants to do a qualitative study with Aboriginal women who have had gestational diabetes, which is a type of diabetes that develops during pregnancy and often leads to Type 2 diabetes after pregnancy.

"I want to understand what it was like for these women," said Oster who adds he'll ask questions about treatment and health care access during their pregnancy. "Ideally once we know what the problem is from the lens of actual Aboriginal people, we would like to come up with some sort of intervention together."

Infectious-disease researcher honoured for flu-treatment discovery

Quinn Phillips

The Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry's Deepali Kumar has been awarded the lone 2011 Gold Medal in Medicine from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

"It's very exciting. It's a real privilege," said Kumar, professor in the Department of Medicine. "I think it really reinforces all the work that we do. It highlights the research strength we have at the University of Alberta, in both virology and transplantation."

The award, one of the most prestigious prizes in Canadian medicine, was given to Kumar for her research into treating transplant patients who contracted the H1N1 flu virus during the pandemic. Kumar discovered immuno-suppressed transplant patients who are given antiviral treatment within 48 hours of showing flu symptoms have improved outcomes and lower hospital admission rates. Her work also has implications in the treatment of any flu strain in transplant patients.

"If we suspect a transplant patient has the flu, we should empirically start antiviral medicine while waiting for our test results," said Kumar. "The test result takes time to come back, so if you wait for that result, you've missed that early window already."

Kumar co-ordinated with 26 sites in North America to collect data from 237 cases of medically attended influenza during the H1N1 pandemic.

"It was really interesting to co-ordinate all those centres but everybody was just wonderful," said Kumar, who adds she used the American Society of Transplantation to reach physicians at various transplant centres across North America. "Everyone was seeing patients with H1N1 and they weren't sure what to expect and what the management should be for these [transplant] patients. Everyone was very enthusiastic about participating."

Her results were published in the top infectious disease journal, *Lancet Infectious Diseases*, in 2010. That caught the eye of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada who awarded Kumar the gold medal earlier in the summer.

Many of the 26 sites, including the U of A, are still on board with work being done by Kumar. "We've become a centre of excellence for influenza research in transplant patients," said Kumar.

The next project for her is studying how the flu virus behaves in transplant patients and how their immune system responds when they are infected. Kumar says that transplant patients shed the virus in greater quantities than non-transplanted patients and they shed it for longer, so this could have important public health implications.

Deepali Kumar was awarded the 2011 Gold Medal in Medicine from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. (Photo supplied)

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New offering in Aboriginal sport and recreation gives students a jump on career

Jane Hurly

Students at the University of Alberta will have a new opportunity to boost their knowledge with the launching of a dynamic new certificate program in Aboriginal sport and recreation.

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The Aboriginal sport and recreation certificate program is designed to deepen a student's understanding about Aboriginal peoples' health and wellness.

This certificate, unique in Canada, was jointly developed by the faculties of native studies and physical education and recreation, and is embedded within a student's degree program. It is designed to afford them a value-added boost to their degrees and deepen their knowledge of the emerging field of Aboriginal peoples' health and wellness through sport and recreation.

Tom Hinch, community and international engagement associate dean in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, says the certificate opens stimulating new learning vistas for students.

"This is an important field of study with a demonstrated need; thus, we jointly created this certificate program that offers a unique learning opportunity for students interested in Aboriginal sport and recreation," he said.

> "This is an important field of study with a demonstrated need; thus, we jointly created this certificate program that offers a unique learning opportunity for students interested in Aboriginal sport and recreation."
>
> Tom Hinch

Native studies interim dean Nathalie Kermoal said the certificate is a timely addition to the academic offerings on campus. "The last two decades have seen a rapid growth in the number of youth in Aboriginal communities across Canada. Research has demonstrated that participation in sport and physical activity plays a vital role in improving the health and well-being of youth and their communities," she said.

"This certificate in Aboriginal sport and recreation will provide degree recipients with the relevant skills and qualifications they need to work productively and respectfully with Aboriginal communities to improve the lives of Aboriginal youth through sport and physical activity in the future."

Tara-Leigh McHugh, a scholar in Aboriginal health and wellness in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, will be a key player in the delivery of the new certificate. She says it is marked by the close collaboration of two faculties to develop a common certificate program to the benefit of students.

"It's a focused program with clear sequencing to facilitate students enrolling and embedding it within their program," said McHugh.

The certificate is open to all students at the U of A, provided they can dovetail it with their program and their particular degree permits them to enrol in it. It will be available for enrollment in fall 2011.

Supplied

An illustration of what a mosasaur going in for the kill may have looked like.

Prehistoric sea lizard discovered from skeletons in closet

Brian Murphy

Dramatic breakthroughs in paleontology don't always come from the field where researchers unearth fossils. That's a philosophy biological sciences professor Michael Caldwell says he has always believed, and it was proven true with breakthrough research on a fossil from a 80-million-year-old marine lizard.

A fossil from a mosasaur lizard had been sitting in a drawer since the 1970s when a U of A graduate student, supervised by Caldwell, began taking a closer look at the creature's skull. The investigation took Caldwell and Takuya Konishi five years of painstaking work before they could claim a brand new genus of mosasaur.

Takuya Konishi

Caldwell says he's not surprised by their conclusion. "Thousands of fossils from these sea-going lizards have been found and lumped together as various species of the same animal," said Caldwell. "But Takuya had five years for a thorough doctoral examination of the fossils and with that amount of time it makes sense that a whole new genus of the creature would turn up."

Konishi noticed an almost-invisible but unique feature on the fossilized skull of one lizard.

"I noticed two ridges on the top of the skull that indicate this fossil was geologically younger than others," said Konishi. "That means this specimen was a more evolved mosasaur and I think the ridges indicate the animal's breathing holes were set further back on the skull than earlier species."

Konishi says the breathing holes of less-evolved mosasaurs were on the front of its snout so this swimming lizard would have to raise its head fully out of the water to breathe. The breathing holes of mosasaurs that came along several million years later were further back on the snout, nearer to the eyes, so it could still breathe while floating along with the top of its head, just breaking the surface of the water.

Konishi says this feature of evolution may have given the animal an advantage in hunting, by being able to better hide itself before striking out at prey.

Konishi will continue to look at the fossils and data already in paleontology collections to see if he can find even more signs of mosasaur evolution. "We found much more diversity in these ancient animals than expected and it's possible we'll add another genus of mosasaurs to the paleontological record," said Konishi.

Since starting this research project Konishi has attained his PhD in paleontology and now works at the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Drumheller. Caldwell has moved forward as well, to become both a professor and chair of biological sciences at the U of A.

Caldwell says the years Konishi spent developing the findings were well worth it. "Takuya produced a giant manuscript for his doctoral thesis and it's a landmark piece of descriptive and systematic paleontology research."

Konishi and Caldwell's research was published July 12 in the *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*.

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Occupational Health and Safety	Room 2-922
Spanish Language	Room 2-976

7:30 - 8:30 pm

Business Analysis Professional Citation	Room 2-926
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Bringing dying Aboriginal languages back from the brink

Michael Davies-Venn

Joe Wilmot, one of about 2,300 members of the Migamaw tribe in Quebec, says his language is in pretty bad shape and he doesn't want to see it die out. But with support from a University of Alberta program that helps to preserve, document and protect indigenous languages, Wilmot is among several First Nations community leaders working to keep indigenous languages alive in Canada.

Every summer since 2000, the U of A's Canadian Indigenous Languages and Literacy Development Institute, or CILDI, has offered courses to about 1,000 Aboriginal community members who have come to the U of A from as far away as Nunavut to acquire the tools they need to revitalize their languages.

"Of the 15 Aboriginal communities in the Prince Edward Island region, language in about 10 of them are not faring well at all," said Wilmot, whose language, Migamaw, has been on the decline for 60 years. "Many of these communities are down to one or two speakers.

"From the age of 40 down, there are no speakers of the language; they may understand it but they can't speak it. And kids under 20 simply don't understand it," he says, and that, "I'd hate to see it die; it was my first language."

> "Language is connected to culture, so as we lose language, we lose culture."
>
> Benjamin Tucker

Wilmot has attended the program every year for four years because, as he puts it, he comes with the hope of taking something back to his community. But he's not only receiving; Wilmot has been giving back. He says while the course has helped him develop an online dictionary of sounds in Migamaw, after receiving his Community Linguist Certificate from the program last year, he returned this year to help teach a class on building language portals.

"The certificate that I've earned here gives me insight into how language works," he said. "This year is the first time that work on online dictionaries was part of the course, and I think we did a good job."

Benjamin Tucker, U of A researcher and CILLDI's interim director, says graduates return to their communities to help preserve their languages through teaching. He says the certificate course, one of several programs the institute offers, also highlights language loss.

"Quite often people are not aware of it happening or what the consequences are when children are not learning a native language. Language is connected to culture, so as we lose language, we lose culture," said Tucker.

Tucker says CILLDI gives the students more than just linguistic tools; it also provides policy and planning training that is needed to revitalize a language.

Lynda Minoose, who started taking classes with the institute two years ago, says the courses have been empowering.

"One of the biggest highlights for me is being able use the skills being taught here in my own language. I'm very grateful that the Great Spirit has put these wonderful people in our paths to help us Aboriginal people get our languages back to being strong again," Minoose said.

Kenyan eye specialist hones skills through 'sandwich fellowship'

Raquel Maurier

The Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry is playing a key role in improving the lives of Kenyan eye patients by training a specialist from Nairobi to better treat glaucoma, the second-leading cause of blindness in that country.

Sheila Marco is in Edmonton for the final part of a training program through the faculty's Department of Ophthalmology, which she says will equip her with new skills and knowledge to refine the treatment of glaucoma patients back home.

The U of A faculty's contribution will be multiplied when Marco returns to Kenya later this summer and shares her new knowledge with fellow ophthalmologists there, as well as medical residents and undergraduate medical students she teaches at the University of Nairobi.

Kenya has just 80 ophthalmologists to work with a population of 38 million people and about half of those eye specialists are located in Nairobi, Kenya's capital. The remaining ophthalmologists are spread throughout the country. In comparison, Canada has 1,200 ophthalmologists for a slightly smaller population.

Marco first came to Edmonton last spring to start her "sandwich fellowship" training, which has various layers of learning. Then, last winter, Karim Damji, an ophthalmology professor from the faculty, headed to Kenya to continue teaching Marco overseas. In early 2011, Marco trained with glaucoma specialists in India to learn how to do cataract surgery and become more specialized with pediatric glaucoma cases. She is now wrapping up her final portion of her training back in Edmonton to perfect her skills with glaucoma experts in the Department of Ophthalmology—Damji, Marianne Edwards, Ordan Lehmann and Michael Dorey. A new glaucoma surgical technique she learned while in Edmonton will also be part of a randomized clinical trial she will run once she gets back to Kenya.

Marco works at a government hospital and sees 30–40 patients per day. She says the training she has received through the sandwich fellowship will help her provide enhanced care to her patients.

"Before coming here, when I ran the glaucoma clinic in Nairobi, I couldn't make certain decisions because the cases were so complicated. My training through this sandwich fellowship program has given me more experience and knowledge and more confidence to deal with complicated cases. I have now had experience with different types of glaucoma and learned different ways of managing glaucoma cases.

"And I've learned how to sit and talk to a patient and determine what is best for the patient from both a doctor's perspective and from the patient's perspective. I've learned how to take a patient's social, cultural and other physical issues into consideration when making patient-care decisions. Back home, it's about prescribing and then going on to the next patient, while here, I've been more of a student, absorbing everything that I can. It's been a great experience."

Marco's fellowship training is funded by the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation, the International Council of Ophthalmology, charitable organization ORBIS International and the Eastern Africa College of Ophthalmologists.

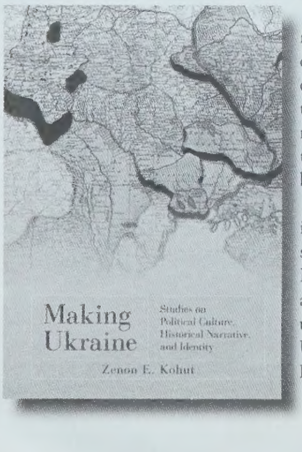
Supplied

Kenyan Opthalmologist Sheila Marco was part of a U of A training program that trained her to better treat glaucoma.

Making of Ukraine offers a view of a developing nation different from the 'Little Russia' notion

Michael Davies-Venn

A new book by a University of Alberta researcher is helping to explain the political divisions in Ukraine by rejecting the idea that the country's current political culture is shaped primarily by 20th century notions of nationalism and nation builders.



The author of *Making Ukraine: Studies on Political Culture, Historical Narrative, and Identity*, Zenon Kohut, director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies in the Department of History and Classics, says the political divisions in Ukraine today can be traced to an earlier period, which he says was more critical to the current construction of Ukrainian identity.

"Although I believe that the modern Ukrainian state and nation continues to be constructed, I am equally convinced that this construction began in the early modern period, rather than simply being the 'invention' of 19th and 20th-century nation builders," Kohut said.

That early modern period began in the 17th century when Kohut says Ukraine broke away from the Polish-Lithuanian commonwealth and became a semi-independent state under Russia. He says the notion of Ukraine being considered as "Little Russia"—that Ukraine was part of a greater Russian entity—continued until Ukraine gained independence in 1991 and persists among Ukrainians even now.

> "In contemporary Ukraine, there's the problem of east and west, with the east facing Russia and the west looking towards Europe."
>
> Zenon Kohur

"Once Ukraine left the commonwealth and came under Russia, a discourse was developed about how the country should be under Russian rule, hence the creation of the identity of 'little Russia.'

"Some of this historical culture created a concept of two branches of one Russian nation," he said. "In contemporary Ukraine, there's the problem of east and west, with the east facing Russia and the west looking towards Europe."

Limited understanding in Ukraine of the country's 17th-century foundations has enormously impacted the culture and politics of Ukraine, he says.

"The lack of knowledge of one's own past and traditions is evident in some parts of Ukraine. And right now that concept of Ukraine being part of the Russian world is being advocated by Russia—which has powerful influence in Ukraine—by various institutions and by post-colonial elites in Ukraine."

Kohut says that, after Ukraine's left the Polish-Lithuanian commonwealth, the country was left with fewer ties to Poland compared to its present connections with Russia. "It's been enti[illegible]nt on the other side because there are still these political connections. The Russians insist that Ukrainians are 'lost Russians,' and, at the same time, there are people within Ukraine who adhere to some of those same ideas," Kohut said.

The book, published by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press, is an outcome of 15 years of research on the political culture of Ukraine and Kohut says he hopes it helps people understand the more complex formation of the country's political history and identity.

"The book will help to better understand the political forces in Ukraine. The impact of efforts such as this are often limited to an intellectual circle and may not penetrate popular culture. The hope is that this book is received beyond the intellectual community."

"The construction of Ukraine's identity and political culture still continues today and will continue for quite a while. And this pull from both sides will continue," Kohut said. "Ultimately, there has to come to some kind of consensus within Ukraine, but it's a long process."

Sport concept in keeping with faculty and university's academic mission

Jane Hurly

The past is precisely where athletics director Ian Reade is focused as he develops a new model for the delivery of high-performance sport at the University of Alberta, digging into the original intent of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation's founding dean, Maury Van Vliet.

Ian Reade

"When Maury Van Vliet created the faculty I believe he imagined one where every part of it would lend to the fulfilling of the university's academic mission," says Reade. "But, in general, sport at Canadian universities has moved away from that vision—more so than in our faculty—but we have as well. We started to separate athletics from academics because the demands to coach far exceeded the capacity of the academic staff to deliver on the demands. That meant the hiring of coaches who were only hired to coach and were involved to a lesser extent in curriculum," he says. "Consequently, our sport development model did not overlap with curriculum. Now, we are bringing curriculum into how we work."

Reade calls this return to Van Vliet's original vision the "Alberta Model" and he says it's the first such sport development model at any Canadian university.

At the heart of the model is an athlete development and coaching model that's grounded in, influenced by, and interlaced with the sport curriculum of the faculty, the sport and performance science of researchers who engage with Golden Bears and Pandas athletes, and every student—undergraduate and graduate—who has passion in this field. In turn, new science, researchers in the field, emerging scientists and coaches contribute to curriculum development and its delivery through the academic offerings of the faculty.

"The Alberta Model comprises six or seven concepts related to sport that are grounded in curriculum," explains Reade. "The concepts include every aspect of what we do as a faculty that relates to sport, such as sport management, performance science, sport psychology, athlete health, and coach education, for example."

For Reade, grounding the high performance sport unit in curriculum is crucial to support the faculty's academic mission. "In the sport context I see relationships between curriculum and teaching—curriculum, coaches and athletes, and curriculum and coaches, research, sport science, sport performance. What emerges, as the concepts fit into the model, is that the relationships between those concepts eventually lead to the outcomes or metrics by which the faculty measures performance."

Reade is hopeful that the Alberta Model will also deliver funding relative to any academic unit contributing to learning and discovery in line with the university's academic plan. "When this model is fully realized," says Reade, "the academic administration will start to look at the athletic program in a different way and see that it is really part of the student academic experience. It's much easier for the university to justify spending money on the athletics program then because it fulfils the academic mission—and the Alberta Model is congruent with the university's mission."

Education trumps regulation for almond farmers

Aaron Yeo

A University of Alberta study shows that simply educating farmers about the hazards of pesticides can reduce their chance of usage by nine per cent.

Environmentalists are always looking for ways to reduce pesticide use, traditionally through government regulations, but also through education programs, which Sandeep Mohapatra, a U of A professor in resource economics and environmental sociology, says works just as well.

"Governments and non-profit organizations are very interested in these programs," Mohapatra said. "But no one [knew] if these education programs work."

Working with researchers in California, Mohapatra closely studied the effects of an education program on the habits of almond farmers in the state over a 10-year period. The goal of the program was to provide an internal incentive to some of the farmers to make their own decisions about pesticide use, instead of forcing them through regulation like those made by the Environmental Protection Agency.

"Whatever decisions you make is the result of an optimization process," he said. "If you're doing something as a farmer, or a student, or an individual, and I regulate that, and say 'it's bad, because the total net cost to society is bad,' it can force you to make sub-optimal decisions."

By learning more about the harm and pollution that certain pesticides cause, farmers can internalize that knowledge and integrate it into their decision making, he says.

"With more information, you re-optimize on your own, and you may realize that the best thing, in this specific instance, is not to use the pesticide," Mohapatra said. "But the impacts of [the programs] cannot be quantified very easily and estimation of the impacts is fraught with statistical challenges."

He used the California government's database of almost 30,000 observations of pesticide use by almond farmers. Some of the farmers had gone through the Biologically Integrated Orchard Systems, an outreach program that was initiated by the University of California and a nonprofit organization, the Community Alliance of Family Farmers, aimed at providing technical assistance and education. Those who had gone through the BIOS program showed conscious decisions to reduce pesticide use, but Mohapatra also stressed the value of the social learning component of the education programs, or how the information can spread even after the program is over.

> "With more information, you re-optimize [decisions] on your own, and you may realize that the best thing, in this specific instance, is not to use the pesticide."
>
> Sandeep Mohapatra

"The idea was that once you leave the program, you go and talk to other farmers," he added, and said that there was a continued decrease in pesticide use post-program.

Mohapatra explained that the design of the program was very influential in the results they observed, and that other existing programs might not be as effective if they don't tap into the decision-making process.

"It's a big challenge on how you intervene and tell them 'this behaviour is better,' or 'that behaviour is better,'" he said. "You must keep their incentives in mind, so that it's ultimately for their benefit, because they are not likely to change their behaviour if it's not."

Small studey engenders big changes

Aaron Yeo

One small study asking one faculty to make a few small environmentally friendly changes has had a big impact across campus.

Spearheaded by Debra Davidson, a professor cross-appointed by the departments of resource economics and environmental sociology and renewable resources, the experiment led to the implementation of campus-wide efforts to curb paper consumption.

"We did a pilot study with the School of Public Health here at the U of A," Davidson said. "We asked them to simply try a few behavioural changes."

From the fall term of 2008 to April 2009, they encouraged those in the faculty to be more conscious of their printing habits, and promoted double-sided printing and reusing single-sided paper.

"We found that there's a lot of low-hanging fruit in the area of reducing paper consumption," Davidson said, noting that many people were willing to take a bit of extra effort to help the cause.

The study was initiated through graduate students who made up the Campus Sustainability Coalition, a student group that advocates for environmentally friendly practices on campus. With the help of Davidson, they entered a competition by TD Canada Trust called the "Go Green Challenge," which looked for campus sustainability initiatives. The group won a $25,000 grant, which was later matched by the Office of the Vice-President (Facilities and Operations).

"This was just a concrete opportunity for us to pursue what were previously just vague common interests," Davidson said.

After the study, Davidson reported that the School of Public Health managed to reduce their ecological footprint by 23 per cent, and that they received a lot of positive feedback from the participants.

"They expressed that just bringing the awareness to their daily work routine was really helpful," she said. The researchers used "visual motivational prompts" placed around offices to inform people on the environmental effects of high paper consumption, as well as simple instructions on how to set their computers to print on both sides of the paper as a default setting.

Davidson said that those responsible for more of the paper use felt that they didn't have much discretion in their printing habits, which were "pretty much mandated by their superiors." Another area of demanding printer use was in recordkeeping, which makes up a large part of regular paper consumption.

"Even though we have all sorts of capacity for digital storage of all kinds of information, there's still a very strong belief among many that digital storage is risky, and we need hard copies of records," Davidson explained.

School of Business real estate chair 'pioneers new thinking'

Jamie Hanlon

It is said that in real estate, the value of a property is determined by three factors: location, location, location. Now prospective business students seeking knowledge of the real estate industry have a new location to consider with the creation of the Melton Chair in Real Estate in the School of Retailing at the University Of Alberta's Alberta School of Business.

David Dale-Johnson

The chair, funded principally by the Melton family and the Alberta Real Estate Foundation, will work to develop leadership in real estate within the business school. The position was created and funded in two years, the fastest time for the development of any chair within the business school, said Paul McElhone, executive director of the School of Retailing, noting that industry buy-in from the major partners and a dozens of other donors was tremendous. Adding the Melton name to the chair establishes a local connection with a "respected and iconic" real estate developer. "They were a perfect choice to kick off the chair," he said.

However, the partnership with the foundation, which was the crux of the eventual creation of this position, started a decade ago with the development of real estate certificate program and the expansion to the development of a commercial real estate course three years ago. The popularity of that inaugural class worked into the plan to expand the real estate curriculum, a decision that precipitated establishing the chair—and the search for an occupant.

"We ultimately wanted to find some who could teach commercial real estate who had a PhD background," said McElhone. "We found David Dale-Johnson, who was originally involved in the real estate program at Berkeley."

Dale-Johnson, previously the director of the real estate program at the University of Southern California, Berkeley, and a real estate industry scholar at the University of British Columbia's Sauder School of Business, will expand the course offering to a second class this fall, and potentially adding others in the coming years, including a real estate law course. "That will allow our students to end up with a bachelor of commerce degree with a minor in real estate," he said.

McElhone sees this new chair and the expanding real estate program as a "win-win-win" for industry, the university and for the students. "We've now become sort of the feeder system for the entire industry for talent," he said. "Commercial realtors such as Avison, Cushman (and Wakefield), Colliers, even some of the investment and development groups look to us for our students when they graduate."

For the school of business in general, and the School of Retailing in particular, the idea of housing this new chair in an area where, as McElhone says, it is inextricably linked, is novel among Canadian universities, and one McElhone hopes will draw business and MBA students to the school.

"When I meet with companies like ICSC (the International Council of Shopping Centers) in New York and talk to the president of the company, he says, 'we don't need any more schools of real estate in North America, what we need are schools of retailing that understand real estate,'" he said. "With this chair, we're pioneering some new thinking out there."

news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

U of A lauded for mental health first aid efforts

The University of Alberta is being recognized for its leadership in promoting mental health awareness.

The award, presented by the Mental Health Commission of Canada, is the first one given to a Canadian university for its support of the commission's mental health first aid program. The program, created in 2001 by Australian researchers, has been adapted by over 18 countries worldwide, including Canada. The Canadian version of the program came under the commission's leadership in 2010.

"We were proud to present the University of Alberta with this award," said Sandy Allen, program director of Mental Health First Aid Canada, in a statement. "The University of Alberta has been dedicated to mental health first aid for a very long time and continues to show its unwavering commitment to our program, as well as to its staff and students, by offering such valuable training."

Researcher wins award for work identifying at-risk kids

A University of Alberta researcher who may have found a quick and easy way of diagnosing mental-health issues and substance-abuse problems in children and youth recently received a New Investigator Award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

Mandi Newton, a researcher in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry's Department of Pediatrics, was the principal investigator for a recently published review in the American medical journal *Pediatrics*, which examined various techniques to detect youth alcohol and drug misuse when adolescents show up in emergency departments.

"The statistics put out nationally show about 15 per cent of all children have a mental illness," said Newton, adding most mental-health visits to emergency departments are related to substance misuse and anxiety disorders. In Alberta, one per cent of all pediatric emergency visits are mental-health related.

Newton's team identified two key questions targeting alcohol use and a single drug-related question that were quite effective at identifying youth with a higher risk for substance-abuse problems. The two questions that pinpointed those with alcohol-dependency issues were, "Have you sometimes been under the influence of alcohol in situations where you could have caused an accident or gotten hurt?" and "Have there often been times when you had a lot more to drink than you intended to have?" Newton says youth who answered "yes" to even one of those questions are more likely to have an alcohol dependency.

The question that helped detect youth with abuse issues related to cannabis was, "How often in the past year have you used cannabis?" Newton says her team found that youth who report using cannabis more than twice per year have a higher likelihood of having a cannabis-use disorder compared to those who report less use, says the research review.

"These three questions could be used as a quick screening tool in emergency departments to identify youth who have a higher likelihood of having a substance-use disorder and who need further follow up outside of emergency," said Newton.

Dental hygiene diploma graduates beat national average

University of Alberta dental-hygiene diploma graduates scored above the national average in every category of the National Dental Hygiene Certification Examination during the most recent round of final exams.

"This is a significant achievement," said Sharon Compton, director of the dental hygiene program in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the U of A. "We've achieved this standing a couple of times in the past, but this was a more significant margin."

The dental hygiene program is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. It was established by Margaret MacLean in 1961. Compton says the program has evolved over time, making it one of the top dental-hygiene programs across Canada.

Music to the judges' ears

University of Alberta music researcher Debra Cairns took a collection of some 50 people—some of whom had no musical training—assembled them into a choir, trained the group to sing songs written more than 200 years ago, and used their recordings to land on the podium at a national choral competition.

The 46-member University of Alberta Concert Choir, made up of students from across campus, recently clinched the award for second place at the National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs in Newfoundland under the Mixed-Voice Collegiate Choirs category. Cairns, the choir's director, says four songs, recorded after just 12 weeks of training, were sent in for the competition. Among them was *O magnum mysterium*, set by the Spanish composer Tomás Luis de Victoria.

"It is a very difficult, intricate piece because it is a style we don't often hear and young university-aged people don't often have the opportunity to perform," said Cairns. "That's the piece I'd say I'm most proud of. They sang it so well and convincingly, and with lovely musicianship. That level of difficulty was challenging and they really nailed it, and it was taken from their first live performance.

Map of diabetes trends in Alberta goes online

Sandra Pysklywyc

The Alberta Diabetes Surveillance System was created in 2006 in partnership between Alberta Health and Wellness and the Institute of Health Economics. Led by Jeff Johnson in the University of Alberta's School of Public Health, the group has been indentifying trends in diabetes, its associated health conditions and monitoring trends in accessing health-care services and has published a comprehensive report called a *Diabetes Atlas* every two years.

The challenge, says Johnson, is that "as soon as we publish our report, it's a little out of date."

One of the group's goals was to create a way to share information easily and quickly across the province. A new interactive website, developed by the Alberta Diabetes Surveillance System, takes years of research and puts it at the fingertips of health-care professionals, health policy and decision-makers, and even the general public.

"Access to current information and trends can be vital in the planning and delivery of services in this province," says Johnson.

Based on the information received, Johnson says, "we can identify trends over time, across geography and age, as well as pinpoint hotspots in the diabetes population."

"The research has been compiled to provide a practical service for health-care providers and policymakers in our province," says Johnson.

The website can be queried on a broad number of variables such as incidence, the number of new cases of diabetes over a specific time period; prevalence, the proportion of people in a population who have diabetes at a certain period of time; and mortality, number or rate of deaths during a specific period. Users can sort results by age group, location of residence, Aboriginal status and sex.

Besides finding out information just about diabetes rates, users can also find out about patterns of provincial health-care utilization by people with diabetes such as physician visits, emergency room encounters and hospitalizations. Users can also find out information about health conditions associated with diabetes such as eye and kidney disease, heart attacks, stroke and even mental-health disorders.

For health-care professionals in Alberta, they will, for the first time, have quick and easy access to a wealth of information.

For the past 14 years, the occurrence of diabetes across Alberta has risen steadily and health-care providers are faced with the challenge of providing adequate services and care to meet this growing need.

"Based on our research, Type 2 diabetes is on the rise in older adult males and we can see that cardiovascular disease, heart attacks and strokes are the main causes of death," said Johnson. "Having the information at our fingertips, in a quick and sortable way, will provide so much benefit for health-care planning."

In fact, once the data is accessed, it can be easily exported for presentations and reports. While the group is providing this website as a resource for the health-care industry, the general public is also welcome to access it.

"A simple registration process and a how-to video makes using the tool easy," said Johnson.

While Johnson notes that, "all provinces contribute to a national diabetes surveillance system, but the Alberta Diabetes Surveillance System is an embellished version. The new site is leading the way in diabetes reporting and information sharing."

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U of A researchers strive to increase awareness of forgotten essential nutrient

Andrea Hill

A group of researchers at the University of Alberta hopes to draw attention to what has become a forgotten essential nutrient.

Choline, a nutrient found in foods such as egg yolks, liver and soybeans, does not appear to be high on anyone's list of eating priorities, say Jonathan Curtis, Catherine Field and René Jacobs, and this is something they want to change.

"It's gone off the radar," said Field, a researcher in nutrition and metabolism in the Department of Agricultural Food and Nutritional Science. "It's not being taught in schools as being an important nutrient and so our dietitians and health professionals don't think about it."

Part of the reason choline has been overlooked, says Field, is because it is produced naturally in the liver. But people can't produce enough to reap the positive benefits the nutrient offers.

Though choline is not as heavily studied as other nutrients, the limited human and animal research published suggests adequate choline intake is important for fetal development, memory function and prevention of liver and muscle damage.

"Choline has many different biological functions related to healthy development and it plays a role in preventing various diseases," said Jacobs, a biochemist who has studied choline metabolism for the past decade.

Despite its apparent health benefits, few Albertans seem to be getting enough choline in their diets, the researchers have found.

"Our preliminary dietary studies clearly show an insufficient choline intake compared to the recommended levels," said Curtis, an analytical chemist and project leader for ongoing choline research at the university.

According to the Institute of Medicine, women should consume 425 milligrams of choline per day—the equivalent of almost four whole eggs. This value is higher for men and pregnant women.

In an ongoing study looking at the nutrition of pregnant women in Edmonton and Calgary, few study participants are meeting the adequate intake for choline and only one of the first 600 women surveyed reported taking a supplement that contained the nutrient.

This statistic is surprising, says Field, given that 97 per cent of women reported consuming at least one supplement.

"Nobody's taking it," Field said. "If there was information out there on choline, we'd see a lot more of it in this group we had."

But even if people are aware of choline's health benefits, they will have a hard time finding a supplement to help them meet the recommended adequate intakes.

It's a lesson Field learned firsthand.

When she went searching for a supplement containing the type of choline found in eggs for study purposes, she couldn't find one in any Canadian health food store or even on the Internet. She eventually had to ask Curtis and his lab group to make one.

And making choline supplements could be next on the agenda if research like that which is happening at the U of A continues to point to the importance of choline for health.

In a continuing animal study, Field and her team are looking at the effects of choline during lactation—a nutiritionally critical period, but one not well studied.

"It's the most nutritionally stressful period for a woman," Field said. "Her nutritional needs are far greater than during pregnancy because she has to produce milk, an important source of choline, for this growing infant."

New mother rats were fed diets with varying amounts of choline. The amount they consumed appeared to influence the health of their pups.

"The pups that were fed from the moms who didn't have the choline in the diet survived didn't grow as well," Field said. "If there's a decrease in growth, or not a normal rate of growth, that has large implications for later health."

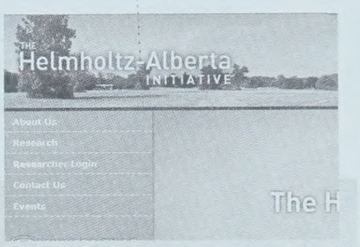
And those implications are now under the microscope as researchers examine the grown pups, looking at immune-system health and brain development.

> "Choline has many different biological functions related to healthy development and it plays a role in preventing various diseases,."
>
> René Jacobs

Current funding for choline research projects will end in the spring of 2012. The research crew is applying for more grants this summer so they can establish appropriate choline intake levels and work towards making a choline supplement.

surf city

The Helmholtz-Alberta Initiative is a U of A-led collaborative research program developed in 2009 with the Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres—an umbrella organization of 16 research centres across Germany—that looks at more sustainable and environmental technologies for Alberta's oilsands. The Germans are combining their long history of developing coal-mining technology with the U of A's oilsands expertise.



There are six active research themes that encompass the initiative: bitumen and lignite upgrading, carbon capture, carbon storage, geothermal energy, sustainable oil sands water management, and mine site reclamation and landscape development.

To watch a video on each theme, go to www.helmholtzalberta.ca and click on research.

Pharmacology celebrates 50 years of innovation

Quinn Phillips

A pharmacology symposium hosted by the University of Alberta 25 years ago saw most attending researchers unable to predict where their field would be in the next 25 years. Now many of those researchers are back to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Department of Pharmacology and are taking the time to reflect on advancements in the field over the last half century.

> "We can do things [now] that were impossible 25 years ago."
>
> Edwin Daniel

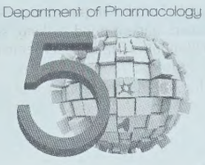
Edwin Daniel, the first chair of the department, was a part of the symposium 25 years ago, and says he has learned so much and given so many talks since then it's tough to remember exactly what was talked about, but he says the field has come a long way.

"Molecular pharmacology is a big, important item," said Daniel, who retired at the age of 85 last year. "It opens all kinds of new fields because now we can actually look at individual molecules chemically and sometimes even in their native state; structurally we can even label them and follow them. We can do things that were impossible 25 years ago."

"I think the big change in thinking was the human genome project," said, Sandy Clanachan, interim chair of the department. "Genomics held a lot of promise and made people think more details about molecular mechanisms. There's a lot of hype with genetics and pharmaco-genetics but it hasn't quite reached its full potential."

Both men were part of the department's 50th anniversary celebrations held Aug. 5 and 6 in the Katz Group Centre for Pharmacy and Health Research. There were numerous speakers, many of whom were graduates or former faculty from the U of A, including Chris Triggle, who Clanachan says is an international star in pharmacology; Daniel, who is renowned after spending almost 60 years in the field, and Terry Kenakin, who has written numerous textbooks and currently works as a professor at the University of North Carolina.

This type of event is good because it can help foster collaborations, says Clanachan because it brings together researchers from across the world to talk about their individual pharmacology research, which can spark ideas.



"Pharmacology is a relatively small community worldwide," said Clanachan. "Something like this anniversary celebration brings in people from the United Kingdom, the United States and people from all over Canada," explaining that attendees from Calgary had raised discussions around collaborations with colleagues who also attended the event.

With the updated technologies in the field, there's a lot of room for advancement, agree Daniel and Clanachan, who think the big thing will be personalized medicine.

"There's a lot of buzz about pharmaco-genetics where drugs can be tailored to individual's genomes," which is different than the current standard of drug therapy that is based on larger cohort, said Clanachan.

"This time is a good time to reflect on past successes," said Clanachan. "It's an opportune time for us to look at what we're doing right now and what our objectives should be in the future."

laurels

Sushanta Mitra, professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, has received the 2011 Outstanding Researcher Award from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Amit Kumar, professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, has been named the 2011 Young Engineer of the Year Award by the Canadian Society for Bioengineering.

Michael Houghton, professor in the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology, has received the Gold Medal from the Canadian Liver Foundation in recognition of his significant contributions to the advancement of hepatology.

The Confederation of Alberta Faculty Association has awarded **Jeff Bisanz**, professor in the Department of Psychology, its Distinguished Academic Award in recognition of his outstanding research and scholarship record.

Arya Sharma, professor in the Division of Endocrinology, has received an honorary degree from the University of Guelph-Humber.

John Kennelly, dean of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences, has been named a Fellow of the Agricultural Institute of Canada.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in *folio* and on Express News at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Oct. 14

Portrait of a Canadian Icon: The Sir Samuel Benfield Steele Collection. This exhibition highlights fascinating items from the Steele Collection and includes original correspondence, diaries, scrapbooks, military papers, and photographs. Noon–4:30 p.m. Rutherford Library, North and South (Humanities and Social Sciences).

Until Aug. 31

Solar Observing. View the sun at the University of Alberta's new observatory on the 5th floor of the CCIS building. This summer, free public viewing of the sun will take place on Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. West End Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science (CCIS).

Until Aug. 25

Threshold: Looking through an Open Door. Drawing 140 and 240 students from the University of Alberta explore new perspectives. Curated by Megan Hahn. South Foyer Rutherford Library, North and South (Humanities and Social Sciences).

Aug. 23

Communications and Technology Program Information Session. Are you thinking about doing a graduate degree in communications? Join us for an information session about the master of arts in communications and technology. 6–7 p.m. 2-957 Enterprise Square.

Fall 2011 Information Sessions. Find out what part-time study at Faculty of Extension can do for you by attending one or more of our information sessions Aug. 23. There is no need to RSVP, and light refreshments will be served. Check our website for specific session times and locations. 6–8:30 p.m. Enterprise Square.

Aug. 26-28

Alumni & Friends River Trip. An excursion on the North Saskatchewan River! The trip includes food plus all shared camping, safety and canoeing gear. Transportation provided. Supply your own clothing, sleeping bags and sleeping pads. Price: $500 + GST per person. Families welcome, ages 12 and up Register online at the Alumni Store or call the Alumni Office at 780-679-1105.

Aug. 26

Analytical and Environmental Toxicology Seminar. Wenwan Zhong, assistant professor, Department of Chemistry at the University of California, presents a seminar on "Analytical Chemistry at the Nano-Bio Interface". Everyone is welcome to attend this seminar. 2:30 p.m. 2F1.04 (classroom D) University of Alberta Hospital.

Sept. 7

NSERC Banting Post Doctoral Grants Program Information Session. This is your opportunity to hear from a fellow researcher experienced in the review of these grant applications. This workshop is open to all faculty eligible to apply for NSERC grants. Seating is limited; registrants will have priority if attendance exceeds room capacity. 1:30–2:30 p.m. 2-1 Council Chambers University Hall.

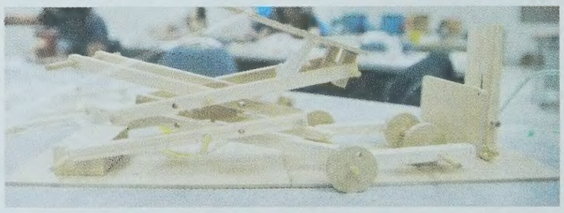
Sept. 9

Knowledge Synthesis presentation. Andrew Cave, with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, presents as part of the university-wide CIHR OOGP Course of Action. 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. 2J2.14 University of Alberta Hospital.

CAMPS

OF DISCOVERY AT THE U OF A

A big part of university summer life is its vast selection of kids' summer camps—runnning the gamut from DiscoverE put on by the Faculty of Engineering; Eurekamp! run by the Department of Philosophy; the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry's Rockin' Docs, and countless sports camps.



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Photos: Michael Hoby / Marketing & Communications

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF EXTENSION

CONTINUING STUDIES | PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | LIFELONG LEARNING

FALL **2011**

COURSE GUIDE
FALL **2011**

For almost a century, Extension has reached beyond the traditional campus to serve as a bridge between the community and the University of Alberta. Our Faculty and staff are committed to providing lifelong learning activities that encourage and promote leadership, discovery, reflection, communication and service.

Beyond the classroom, the Faculty of Extension is a downtown hub of research in the fields of university-community engagement, regional development, governance, children, youth and families, second language acquisition, public alerting, and communications and technology.

780.492.3109 or 780.492.3116

www.extension.ualberta.ca

Whether you want to reach beyond your current skills on the job, or get more out of life in your leisure time, Extension can be your personal bridge to a lifetime of learning opportunities. Whether it's a seminar or short course, a Certificate Program, or even a post-graduate degree in Communications and Technology, we know you'll find the time and effort well-spent.

Most of our programs and classes do not require a degree or previous post-secondary education — just a desire to learn and to explore the possibilities of a commitment to lifelong learning.

Management Development Certificate Program

Organizations today count on people to excel at decision making, problem solving, motivation and strategic planning. This certificate program will help you acquire practical knowledge in functional areas such as human resources management, financial management, marketing, strategy and operations. You will gain knowledge and skills that will enhance your managerial competencies and advanced theory and concepts that will strenghten your leadership potential. You will learn from instructors who know their business—people who have faced the challenges you face to excel in their fields. This is quality classroom time packed with inside information, practical advice and excellent instruction.

There is also the opportunity for students who wish to specialize in the **Management Development Certificate for Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicts** or the **Management Development Certificate for Police Services**. Please visit our web-site for complete details.

Courses are also eligible for exemption towards various professional designations such as the Certified Management Accountant (CMA), Canadian Institute of Management (CIM) and the Insurance Institute of Canada (FCIP).

To find out more, drop in to our Information Session in Room 2-926 of Enterprise Square on Tuesday, August 23 between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/management
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Fall Term 2011

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXMGT	5566	FA1	Commercial Law	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$575
EXMGT	5678	FA1	Directing and Managing Organizational Change	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXMGT	5596	FA2	Human Resources Foundations	FSDR	**	Oct 14	$575
EXMGT	5596	FA1	Human Resources Foundations	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$575
EXMGT	5576	FA1	Interpersonal Communications in Business	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXMGT	5577	FA1	Introduction to Management*	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXMGT	5577	FA2	Introduction to Management*	FSDR	**	Sept 9	$575
EXMGT	5578	FA1	Introduction to Managerial Economics	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$575
EXMGT	5579	FA1	Introductory Financial Accounting	M	12 eve	Sept 12	$575
EXMGT	5585	FA1	Microeconomics	M	12 eve	Sept 12	$575
EXMGT	5581	FA1	Management Accounting	W	13 eve	Sept 14	$575
EXMGT	5587	FA1	Organizational Behaviour	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$575
EXMGT	5587	FA2	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	**	Sept 16	$575
EXMGT	5587	FA3	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	**	Oct 21	$575
EXMGT	5682	FA1	Strategic Management	FSDR	**	Nov 18	$575

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Please note that this course has undergone a name change: Introduction to Management (*formerly* Introduction to Business Management)
** Call for details

Please visit our web-site at www.extension.ualberta.ca/management for the most current information and specific program details.

Purchasing Management

Offered in cooperation with the Purchasing Management Association of Canada, learn the fundamentals of procurement, transportation, logistics and operations. For further information please visit our web-site.

To find out more, drop in to our Information Session in Room 2-926 of Enterprise Square on Tuesday, August 23 between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/management
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Fall Term 2011

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXPMAC	5696	FA1	Introduction to Accounting and Finance	SD	2 days	Nov 26	$615
EXPMAC	5698	FA1	Introduction to Business Planning	MT	2 days	Nov 28	$615
EXPMAC	5695	FA1	Introduction to Contract Law	MT	2 days	Sept 19	$615
EXPMAC	5634	FA1	Introduction to Logistics	SD	3 wkd	Oct 22	$625
EXPMAC	5697	FA1	Introduction to Marketing	SD	2 days	Oct 29	$615
EXPMAC	5635	FA1	Introduction to Operations Management	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$625
EXPMAC	5632	FA1	Introduction to Procurement	SD	3 wkd	Sept 17	$625
EXPMAC	5633	FA1	Introduction to Transportation	W	13 eve	Sept 14	$625

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Please visit our web-site at www.extension.ualberta.ca/management for the most current information and specific program details.

Risk and Insurance Management

Risk Management is the fast-growing discipline of management dealing with the handling of losses which can seriously affect an organization's normal operation. Courses are offered in cooperation with Risk and Insurance Management Society. The Faculty of Extension also offers courses that lead towards the FCIP (Fellow Chartered Insurance Professional offered through the Insurance Institute of Canada.

To find out more, drop in to our Information Session in Room 2-926 of Enterprise Square on Tuesday, August 23 between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

Fall Term 2011

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXIIC	5626	FA1	Risk Management Process	W	13 eve	Sept 14	$575
EXIIC	5627	FA1	Torts	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$575

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Please visit our web-site at www.extension.ualberta.ca/iic for the most current information and specific program details.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/iic
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Information Technology Management Certificate Program

Keep pace with the rate of change in the information systems industry and learn how to anticipate future developments and trends.

Based on an understanding that organizational effectiveness depends on how managers acquire, organize and use information, this program has been developed in consultation with information technology practitioners, business managers, and industry experts. It provides systems and business professionals with the latest knowledge and expertise in the area of information technology management.

To find out more, drop in to our Information Session in Room 2-926 of Enterprise Square on Tuesday, August 24 between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/itm
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Fall Term 2011

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXMGT	5678	FA1	Directing and Managing Organizational Change	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXMGT	5613	FA1	Evolving Technologies	W	13 eve	Sept 14	$575
EXMGT	5614	FA1	Information Technology Concepts	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXMGT	5576	FA1	Interpersonal Communications in Business	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXMGT	5577	FA1	Introduction to Management*	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXMGT	5577	FA2	Introduction to Management*	FSDR	**	Sept 9	$575
EXMGT	5617	FA1	Strategic Planning for Information Technology Management	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$575

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Please note that this course has undergone a name change: Introduction to Management (*formerly* Introduction to Business Management)
** Call for details

Please visit our web-site at www.extension.ualberta.ca/management for the most current information and specific program details.

Professional Associations providing Additional Accreditation

Many of the courses offered in Management Certificate Programs can be used to receive recognition from many respected and valued professional associations. Professional designations in such areas as accounting, purchasing, management, risk and insurance,and human resources can be completed by taking courses through the University of Alberta. For a complete listing of partnered professional associations please call 780.492.3027 or check our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/management.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/management
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Human Resources Management Certificate Program

Managing employees is critical to any organizations success. Learn how to plan for the needs of your organization and gain a greater understanding of issues in this field. Improve and enhance your practical skills that directly apply to the day-to-day operation of the human resources role. This program is invaluable for those working in human resources, as well as those working in or aspiring to a supervisory role.

To find out more, drop in to our Information Session in Room 2-926 of Enterprise Square on Tuesday, August 23 between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/hrm
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Fall Term 2011

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXMGT	5678	FA1	Directing and Managing Organizational Change	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXMGT	5596	FA2	Human Resources Foundations	FSDR	**	Oct 14	$575
EXMGT	5596	FA1	Human Resources Foundations	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$575
EXMGT	5576	FA1	Interpersonal Communications in Business	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXOS	4620	FA1	Introduction to Health and Safety	M	13 eve	Sept 12	$575
EXOS	4620	FA2	Introduction to Health and Safety	MTWR	13 eve	Oct 3	$575
EXMGT	5577	FA1	Introduction to Management*	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXMGT	5577	FA2	Introduction to Management*	FSDR	**	Sept 9	$575
EXMGT	5578	FA1	Introduction to Managerial Economics	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$575
EXMGT	5605	FA1	Issues an Trends in Total Compensation	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXMGT	5599	FA1	Labour and Employee Relations*	W	13 eve	Sept 14	$575
EXMGT	5585	FA1	Microeconomics	M	12 eve	Sept 12	$575
EXMGT	5587	FA1	Organizational Behaviour	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$575
EXMGT	5587	FA2	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	**	Sept 16	$575
EXMGT	5587	FA3	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	**	Oct 21	$575
EXMGT	5602	FA1	Techniques of Interviewing	FSDR	**	Nov 4	$575
EXMGT	5603	FA1	Managing Performance through Training and Development*	S	7 days	Sept 10	$575

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Please note that these courses have undergone name changes: Introduction to Management (*formerly* Introduction to Business Management), Labour and Employee Relations (*formerly* Labour Relations), Managing Performance through Training and Development (*formerly* Training and Development of the Workforce)
** Call for details

Please visit our web-site at www.extension.ualberta.ca/hrm for the most current information and specific program details.

Business Analysis Professional Citation Program

Business Analysts are in demand! Business Analysis is the set of tasks, knowledge, and techniques required to identify business needs and determine solutions for business problems. This program will be of interest to Business and Project Managers who seek solutions for process improvement and organizational changes as well as System Analysts who need to bridge the gap between business processes and technical requirements.

The program curriculum is endorsed by the International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA). The IIBA is an international not-for-profit professional association for business analysis professionals that develops and maintains standards for the practice of business analysis and for the certification of practitioners.

To find out more, drop in to our Information Session in Room 2-926 of Enterprise Square on Tuesday, August 23 between 7:30 pm and 8:30 pm.

IIBA™ Endorsed Education Provider

Fall Term 2011

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXBA	5687	FA1	Introduction to Business Analysis	MTW	3 days	Sept 12	$875
EXBA	5687	FA2	Introduction to Business Analysis	FS	2 wknd	Sept 16	$875
EXBA	5688	FA1	Understanding and Gathering Requirements	MT	2 days	Oct 3	$675
EXBA	5688	FA2	Understanding and Gathering Requirements	SD	1 wknd	Oct 22	$675
EXBA	5689	FA1	Analyzing Information, Processes and Workflow	MTW	3 days	Oct 24	$875
EXBA	5689	FA2	Analyzing Information, Processes and Workflow	FS	2 wknd	Nov 18	$875
EXBA	5690	FA1	Communication Success Factors	MT	2 days	Nov 14	$675

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/ba
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Supervisory Development Citation Program

Our Supervisory Development Citation Program provides the up-to-date information and advice you need to become an effective leader in your work environment. Whether you already supervise staff or are planning to move your career in that direction, you will benefit from this practical program that focuses on the key areas of supervision.

Core Courses
Principles of Supervision (16 hours)
Interpersonal Communications (16 hours)
Creating Effective Work Groups (16 hours)
The Supervisor as a Trainer (16 hours)
Interviewing Techniques for Supervisors (16 hours)
Supervisory Summation (16 hours)

Elective Seminars (Choose one)
Supervising in the Union Environment (16 hours)
The Law and the Supervisor (16 hours)

The program schedule is flexible, offering you a choice of classes to choose from. To graduate, you will complete the six core courses and one elective. Corporate discounts are available for organizations enrolling more than three people at one time in any one seminar. For more information, call 780.492.5066 or 780.492.8315.

Key Leadership Skills

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXSDP	5310	FA1	Principles of Supervision	MT	2 days	Sept 19	$435
EXSDP	5310	FA2	Principles of Supervision	RF	2 days	Sept 22	$435
EXSDP	5311	FA1	Interpersonal Communications	RF	2 days	Sept 29	$415
EXSDP	5313	FA1	The Supervisor as a Trainer	RF	2 days	Oct 6	$415
EXSDP	5312	FA1	Creating Effective Work Groups	RF	2 days	Oct 13	$415
EXSDP	5314	FA1	Interviewing Techniques for Supervisors	RF	2 days	Oct 20	$415
EXSDP	5310	FA3	Principles of Supervision	RF	2 days	Oct 27	$435
EXSDP	5311	FA2	Interpersonal Communications	MT	2 days	Oct 31	$415
EXSDP	5316	FA1	The Law and the Supervisor	RF	2 days	Nov 3	$415
EXSDP	5314	FA2	Interviewing Techniques for Supervisors	MT	2 days	Nov 7	$415
EXSDP	5313	FA2	The Supervisor as a Trainer	MT	2 days	Nov 14	$415
EXSDP	5315	FA1	Supervising in the Union Environment	RF	2 days	Nov 17	$415
EXSDP	5312	FA2	Creating Effective Work Groups	MT	2 days	Nov 21	$415
EXSDP	5317	FA1	Supervisory Summation	RF	2 days	Dec 1	$415

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Professional Development Series

As a professional, you are always looking for ways to further your career and education and bridge your current learning into future opportunities.

In today's global work world, professionals at all levels are finding that continually enhancing their knowledge and expertise is a powerful way to increase your competitive edge as well as contribute towards the positive enrichment of your corporation's culture and operations. The Faculty of Extension's new Professional Practice Studies allows you to specialize in areas of specific interest to enhance your skills and knowledge in a targeted subject area. Each specialization will provide approximately 50 hours of study and upon completion participants will receive recognition of their accomplishment.

Students may focus on the following specializations:

- Workplace Communication*
- Conflict Resolution*
- Financial Management*
- Management Bootcamp*
- Workplace Coaching*

* For the complete listing of program requirements please visit our website at: **www.extension.ualberta.ca/developmentseries**.

We are committed to help you achieve your personal and professional goals.

Business Seminars

Find out more about Business Programs at our Information Session held on Tuesday, August 23 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm in Room 2-926, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue

Management Seminars

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	5419	FA1	GMAT Test Preparation Course	W	9 eve	Sept 14	$885*
EXGEN	5353	FA1	Basic Accounting for Nonaccountants	M	6 eve	Sept 26	$465*
EXGEN	5369	FA1	Managing Your Time	F	1 day	Sept 30	$375*
EXGEN	5418	FA1	Win-Win Collaboration	RF	2 days	Oct 6	$465*
EXGEN	5421	FA1	Take This Job And...Love It!	F	1 day	Oct 21	$375*
EXGEN	5432	FA1	Workplace Presentation Skills	MT	2 days	Oct 24	$465*
EXGEN	5426	FA1	Building Organizational Collaboration and Trust	M	1 day	Oct 24	$375*
EXGEN	5360	FA1	Finance for Nonfinancial Managers	WR	2 days	Nov 2	$465*
EXGEN	5372	FA1	Mental Toughness: Training for Success	R	1 day	Nov 17	$435*
EXGEN	5410	FA1	Coaching for Success	MT	2 days	Nov 21	$465*
EXGEN	5430	FA1	The Art of Business Relationships	MT	2 days	Nov 28	$465*
EXGEN	5422	FA1	Assertive Communication	F	1 day	Dec 2	$375*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Corporate discounts are available for organizations enrolling more than three people at one time in any one seminar. For more information, call 780.492.5066 or 780.492.8315.

Investments and Personal Finance

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	5375	FA1	Personal Investment Strategies	T	10 eve	Sept 13	$395*
EXGEN	5390	WI1	The Art and Science of Investing	T	10 eve	Jan 10	$395*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/businessseminars
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Occupational Health and Safety

Concern for the promotion of health and safety in the workplace is increasing among workers and employers across all industries. Consequently, the demand for occupational health and safety professionals is also increasing. This certificate program is designed to help practitioners from many different backgrounds develop the competencies needed to be effective in the development, implementation, and evaluation of occupational health and safety programs and systems in a wide variety of occupational settings.

The program consists of 6 core courses, 78 hours of elective courses and 35 hours of elective enrichment seminars.

The University of Alberta's Occupational Health and Safety Certificate Program is also offered at the following affiliate institutions: Keyano College (Fort McMurray), Red Deer College, Grande Prairie Regional College and Medicine Hat College.

Find out more about the Occupational Health & Safety Certificate at our Information Session

Edmonton location:
Tuesday, August 23 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm in Room 2-922, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue.

Calgary location:
Tuesday, August 23 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm in EC2065, Mount Royal University.

780.492.3037
toll free: 1.800.808.4784
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/ohs
email: ohs@ualberta.ca

Classes listed below will be held in Edmonton/Calgary, and Online.

Occupational Health and Safety – Edmonton

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
			CORE COURSES				
EXOS	4620	FA1	Introduction to Health and Safety Systems	M	13 eve	Sept 12	$575
EXOS	4620	FA2	Introduction to Health and Safety Systems	MTWR	4 days	Oct 3	$575
EXOS	4621	FA1	Management of Health and Safety Systems	SD	3 wknd	Oct 1	$575
EXOS	4621	FA2	Management of Health and Safety Systems	MT	4 days	Dec 5	$575
EXOS	4622	FA1	Fundamentals of Occupational Hygiene	W	13 eve	Sept 14	$575
EXOS	4622	FA2	Fundamentals of Occupational Hygiene	SD	3 wknd	Oct 22	$575
EXOS	4623	FA1	Applied Occupational Hygiene	TWRF	4 days	Sept 27	$575
EXOS	4624	FA1	Health and Safety Legislation and Policy	WRF	3 days	Sept 14	$575
EXMGT	5587	FA1	Organizational Behaviour	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$575
EXMGT	5587	FA2	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	**	Sept 16	$575
EXMGT	5587	FA3	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	**	Oct 21	$575
			ELECTIVE COURSES				
EXOS	4575	FA1	Fundamentals of Auditing	TWRF	4 days	Sept 20	$575
EXOS	4631	FA1	How To Be An Effective Safety Trainer	MTWR	4 days	Oct 17	$575
EXMGT	5576	FA1	Interpersonal Communications in Business	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$575
EXMGT	5603	FA1	Managing Performance through Training & Development*	S	7 days	Sept 10	$575
EXOS	4609	FA1	Safety Hazard Recognition, Evaluation & Control	SD	4 days	Sept 10	$575
EXOS	4609	FA2	Safety Hazard Recognition, Evaluation & Control	TWRF	4 days	Nov 22	$575
EXOS	4625	FA1	Risk Management and Communications	TWRF	4 days	Nov 29	$575
			ENRICHMENT SEMINARS				
EXOS	4633	FA1	Accident Causation Theory	R	1 day	Oct 6	$345
EXOS	4634	FA1	Avoiding a Wrong with Two Rights: Human Rights Vs. the Right to Safety	RF	2 days	Oct 27	$445
EXOS	4603	FA1	Behaviour-Based Safety	SD	2 days	Dec 10	$445
EXOS	4568	FA1	Emergency Management	RF	2 days	Oct 13	$445
EXOS	4578	FA1	Health and Safety Committees	S	1 day	Sept 17	$345
EXOS	4579	FA1	Incident Investigation	MT	2 days	Oct 17	$445
EXOS	4584	FA1	Managing Contractor Safety Performance	RF	2 days	Oct 20	$445
EXOS	4629	FA1	Noise and Hearing Conservation	F	1 day	Oct 7	$345
EXOS	4612	FA1	Safety Culture & Perception Surveys	F	1 day	Sept 30	$345

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Call for details

Occupational Health and Safety - Calgary

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
			CORE COURSES				
EXOS	4620	FA3	Introduction to Health and Safety Systems	MTWR	4 days	Sept 26	$575
EXOS	4621	FA3	Management of Health and Safety Systems	TWRF	4 days	Nov 22	$575
EXOS	4622	FA3	Fundamentals of Occupational Hygiene	TWRF	4 days	Sept 13	$575
EXOS	4623	FA2	Applied Occupational Hygiene	SD	3 wknd	Oct 1	$575
EXOS	4624	FA2	Health and Safety Legislation and Policy	MTW	3 days	Nov 14	$575
			ELECTIVE COURSES				
EXOS	4601	FA1	Fundamentals of Disability Management	TWRF	4 days	Nov 1	$575
EXOS	4576	FA1	Fundamentals of Ergonomics	SD	4 days	Dec 3	$575
			ENRICHMENT SEMINARS				
EXOS	4603	FA2	Behaviour-Based Safety	RF	2 days	Oct 13	$445
EXOS	4560	FA1	Conflict and Confrontation	RF	2 days	Dec 1	$445
EXOS	4572	FA1	Fall Protection	S	1 day	Sept 24	$345
EXOS	4574	FA1	Fire Safety Program	SD	2 days	Nov 5	$445
EXOS	4628	FA1	Toxicology: Effects and Hazards	F	1 day	Dec 9	$345

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Occupational Health and Safety – Online

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
			CORE COURSES				
EXOS	4622	FA4	Fundamentals of Occupational Hygiene	M	13 wks	Sept 12	$675
EXMGT	5587	FA4	Organizational Behaviour		13 wks	Sept 13	$675

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Environmental Resource Management

The Environmental Resource Management Certificate Program (ERM) is designed for:

- Individuals transitioning into the environmental field
- Mid-level experienced professionals who want to enhance and update their skills and knowledge
- Individuals who wish to achieve manager-level responsibilities in the field of environmental resource management
- Individuals who wish to broaden their environmental skills
- Individuals with experience in private organizations or public agencies dealing with natural resources or the environment.

The ERM certificate program provides training for professional development in private or public organizations. The aim is to increase familiarity and competence in understanding the dynamics of environmental resource management, the strategies and techniques of environmental planning and management, and the biological, physical, social, economic and institutional implications of resource decisions. Students also become familiar with various quantitative methods of analysis and aids to decision making. The ERM courses blend theory and practical exercises to help students develop the comprehensive set of skills and understanding the students' need to succeed. It offers a thorough background in air, water and soil processes, and environmental monitoring, biotechnology, instrumentation and experimental design.

Certified Canadian Environmental Practitioner

ERM Graduates are eligible to apply for the Canadian Certified Environmental Practitioner-in-Training designation, CEPIT, under CECAB's (The Canadian Environmental Certification Approvals Board) National Certification Program for Canadian Environmental Practitioners. The CEPIT certification is seen as a stepping stone to becoming a Canadian Certified Environmental Practitioner (CCEP). To apply for a CCEP, applicants must have a two or three year diploma or degree in addition to a minimum five years of Canadian environmental work experience.

For more information on CECAB please go to www.cecab.org

Corporate Training: Contact us now to learn how we can help your organization meet its professional development and corporate training objectives.

Fall Term 2011

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
			CORE COURSES				
EXERM	4252	FA1	Environmental Geology	TRS	8 eve/1S	Sept 8	$565
EXERM	4250	FA1	Principles of Ecosystems	T	8 eve	Oct 11	$565
EXERM	4260	FA1	Environmental Law	TWR	3 days	Nov 8	$565
			ELECTIVES				
EXERM	4274	FA1	Fundamental of GIS	TWR	3 days	Sept 20	$565
EXERM	4301	FA1	Sustainable Development New	RFS	3 days	Oct 13	$565
EXERM	4265	FA1	Applied Vegetative Reclamation	RFS	3 days	Oct 27	$565
EXERM	4298	FA1	Understanding LEED for Building Works New	RFS	3 days	Nov 24	$565

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Courses are subject to change. Please visit our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/erm for the most current information and to register online.

To find out more about the Environmental Resource Management Certificate Program, plan to attend our Information Session on Tuesday, August 23 from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm in Room 2-938, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton AB.

780.492.5532 or 780.492.3158
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/erm
email: erm@ualberta.ca

Construction Administration

How can you enter or advance in this exciting, high-growth field? This certificate provides the fundamental areas of construction administration. Develop and expand your managerial skills in courses developed and approved by U of A and accredited by ***Canadian Construction Association*** *for Gold Seal Accreditation.*

If you desire a career change in the construction field, this program will help you gain knowledge essential to success in the field. Or, if you work in the construction industry, design, project management, manufacturing and supply, development, or real estate, and are seeking the competitive edge to further your career, this certificate will greatly increase your competency, and ability to compete and advance. This program builds your understanding of the planning, technical, financial, and legal aspects of the construction business.

Construction Project Management Citation – COMING SOON!:
scheduled regular courses and corporate training, please check on our web site for more details

Corporate Training:
Contact us now to learn how we can help your organization meet its professional development and corporate training objectives

Fall Term 2011

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXCST	4203	FA1	Contract Law & Construction Documents (Core)	W	13 eve	Sept 14	$565
EXCST	4204	FA1	Fundamentals of Project Management (Core)	R/S	3 eve/4S	Sept 10	$565
EXCST	4202	FA1	Construction Planning & Scheduling (Core)	T/S	7 eve/3S	Sept 20	$565
EXCST	4217	FA1	Project Delivery (Elective)	RF	2 days	Sept 29	$485
EXCST	4239	FA1	Construction Cost Control (Elective) NEW	R/S	7 eve/3S	Oct 13	$565
EXCST	4216	FA1	Fundamentals of Blueprint Reading (Elective)	RF	2 days	Nov 17	$485
EXCST	4298	FA1	Understanding LEED for Building Works (Elective) NEW	RFS	3 days	Nov 24	$515

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Courses are subject to change. Please visit our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/cst for the most current information and to register online.

To find out more about the Construction Administration Certificate program, plan to attend our Information Session on Tuesday, August 23 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm in Room 2-938, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton AB.

780.492.5532 or 780.492.3158
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/cst
email: cst@ualberta.ca

Fine Arts

"To be an artist is to believe in life." ~ Henry S. Moore

Art expresses who we are, where we are going, where we have been, and what we might be. It compels us to engage our minds, think in new ways, and to use our most precious gift, our imagination.

Develop your imagination and creative expression with a solid grounding in the fundamentals of art through our Fine Arts courses. Offering studio instruction with professional artists, critique and practice, these courses help you build a portfolio reflective of your artistic vision and mastery.

Courses in Fine Arts can be taken towards a Fine Arts Certificate, as outlined below, or for general interest.

For a complete brochure on our courses, contact our program at 780.492.3034 or visit our website at **www.extension.ualberta.ca/finearts**

Fine Arts Certificate Courses

Our certificate program offers three streams to choose from – drawing, painting, and watercolour. Each stream is comprised of eight core courses (240 hrs) plus 60 hours of elective courses and workshops.

Fine Arts Certificate Program students are required to be 17 or older and hold a high school diploma or equivalent. Students must complete a program application form and provide a non-refundable application fee of $75. Call 780.492.3093 to request a form.

*You **do not** need to be a certificate student to register in Extension Fine Arts courses.*

Looking for More Information? Find out more about our Fine Arts Certificate at our Information Session on Tuesday, August 23, from 6-7 pm in Room 2-958, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue.

Scholarships Available

The Fine Arts program has a number of scholarships available for certificate students upon application and recommendation of instructors. For more information, visit www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies.

Fall Term 2011

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
			CORE CERTIFICATE COURSES				
EXART	3005	FA1	Drawing I **	R	10 eve	Sept 15	$395*
EXART	3005	FA2	Drawing I **	M	10 eve	Sept 12	$395*
EXART	3005	FA3	Drawing I**	W	10 aftn	Sept 14	$395*
EXART	3003	FA1	Visual Art & Design I	W	10 eve	Sept 14	$395*
EXART	3006	FA1	Drawing II	M	10 eve	Sept 12	$395*
EXART	3002	FA1	Art History	R	10 eve	Sept 15	$395*
EXART	3010	FA1	Painting I	T	10 eve	Sept 13	$395*
EXART	3012	FA1	Painting III	W	10 eve	Sept 14	$395*
EXART	3525	FA1	Watercolour I	R	10 eve	Sept 22	$395*
EXART	3007	FA1	Life Drawing	W	10 eve	Sept 14	$395*
EXART	3260	FA1	Project Course†				$195*
			ELECTIVE CERTIFICATE COURSES				
EXART	3529	FA1	Figure Painting	M	10 aftn	Sept 12	$395*
EXART	3596	FA1	Heavy Texture (Impasto) Painting	F	10 eve	Sept 16	$395*
EXART	3531	FA1	Developing A Sketchbook: Visual Thinking	T	10 eve	Sept 13	$395*
EXART	3223	FA1	Pen, Ink, and Watercolour	S	10 morn	Sept 17	$395*
EXART	3543	FA1	Soft Pastel Drawing I	M	10 eve	Sept 12	$395*
EXART	3542	FA1	Contemporary Thematic Development	S	10 morn	Sept 17	$395*
EXART	3532	FA1	Abstract Painting	R	5 eve	Sept 15	$195*

LEGEND **M–Monday** **T–Tuesday** **W–Wednesday** **R–Thursday** **F–Friday** **S–Saturday** **D–Sunday**

Note: Most afternoon classes are held from **1 – 4 pm**, morning classes are held from **10 am – 1 pm**, and evening classes are held from **6:30 – 9:30 pm**.

* Plus art supplies, materials, or textbook.
** Drawing is one of the cornerstones of art training and is recommended to students with no previous art experience.
† NEW: pay $195 per semester of enrollment in Project Course

• Please visit our website for course prerequisites: **www.extension.ualberta.ca/finearts**

780.492.3034
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/finearts
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

Residential Interiors

"A home cannot be truly beautiful unless it functions in harmony with who we are." ~ Clodagh

Do you have a passion for interior design? Do you notice special details: the way light falls through a window, how a doorway frames a view, why a certain shade or texture doesn't fit the feel of a room? Decorating a home is a form of creative expression, as are the visual arts of drawing and painting. If you like to make your living environment reflect who you are, and if you have a flair for making a house a home, consider pursuing studies in residential interiors that can lead to a professional certificate.

Residential Interiors Certificate*

Requirement to complete: 351 credit hours (6 core and 3 elective courses)

This certificate, unique in Western Canada, is recognized as an excellent university-level program and incorporates the principles of fine arts, architecture, and business. Offering a balanced combination of theory, practice through applied exercises, and industry-specific instruction, this program will enhance your current practice or help you pursue a new career in residential interior decorating.

* While auditing for general interest is permitted, preference for admission will be granted to students enrolled in the Residential Interiors Certificate Program.

Possible Transfer of RI Credits to a Degree Program:

Our students can apply for admission to the U of A Human Ecology Degree program www.ales.ualberta.ca/futurestudents/Explore_Programs/Human_Ecology/TextilesandClothing.aspx (Clothing, Textiles and Material Culture Major). If accepted into that program, they may have core Residential Interiors credits apply toward a minor in Interiors.

Fall Term 2011

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
			CORE COURSES				
EXRI	4676	FA1	Introduction to Residential Interiors	M	13 eve	Sept 12	$550*
EXRI	4676	FA2	Introduction to Residential Interiors	M	12 morn/1 eve	Sept 12	$550*
EXRI	4677	FA1	Basic Drawing, Drafting, and Presentation	T	13 aftn	Sept 13	$550*
EXRI	4678	FA1	Colour Theory and Application	W	13 eve	Sept 14	$550*
EXRI	4680	FA1	Products and Finishes	W	13 eve	Sept 14	$550*
EXRI	4679	FA1	Space Planning	R	13 eve	Sept 15	$550*
EXRI	4681	FA1	Business Practice	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$550*
			ELECTIVES				
EXRI	3510	FA1	Computer-Assisted Design (CAD)	M	13 eve	Sept 12	$550*
EXRI	4682	FA1	History of Residential Furnishings	W	13 eve	Sept 14	$550*
EXRI	4683	FA1	Building Construction	T	13 eve	Sept 13	$550*
EXRI	3588	FA1	Green Design	W	13 eve	Sept 14	$550*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Note: Morning classes are held from 9 am – noon, afternoon classes are held from 1 – 4 pm, and evening classes are held from 6:30 – 9:30 pm.

* Plus text and supplies

Additional electives will be offered in our winter and spring semesters.

The Residential Interiors Information Night is your opportunity to learn more about the program, instructors, and courses. Please join us on Tuesday, August 23, from 7:30 to 8:30 pm in Room 2-922, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue.

780.492.3093
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/ri
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

Humanities

"Culture is the widening of the mind and of the spirit." ~ Jawaharlal Nehru

Explore the arts and humanities to develop both your critical and creative faculties, and to reach a greater understanding of the world around you.

Fall Term 2011

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	3814	FA1	The Symbol of the Black Madonna	S	1 day	Oct 1	$95*
EXGEN	3815	FA1	Discovering your Secret	S	1 day	Nov 5	$95*
EXGEN	3816	FA1	Symbols and Myths of Eastern Religions	W	6 eve	Sept 7	$185*
EXGEN	3818	FA1	Beyond Beliefs	M	6 eve	Oct 17	$185*
EXGEN	3817	FA1	Popular Music Before 1945	T	6 eve	Sept 6	$185*
EXGEN	3819	FA1	The Art of Reading Poetry	R	6 eve	Oct 20	$185*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Note: Evening classes are held 6 pm – 8:30 pm, and day classes are held 10 am – 4 pm.

780.492.3093
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/humanities
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

English Language Program

Discover a whole new world by studying English at the University of Alberta. Our English Language Program provides a chance to explore interesting ideas, discover another culture and develop new communications skills that will take you around the world. We offer everything from English basics to pronunciation enhancement to university level English in day and evening classes. Small class size means you get lots of opportunity to concentrate on the skills you need and practise along with students from around the world. We also support you with highly qualified instructors and a state-of-the-art Multimedia Language Learning Centre with Internet access and interactive computer software.

Our Program

Established in 1973, the English Language Program (ELP) enjoys an international reputation for providing a high standard of instruction in English to students from around the world. This standard of excellence is maintained by specialized teaching staff who employ modern teaching approaches and materials. Students use a computerized, state-of-the-art, multi-media language centre. In addition to regular offerings, the ELP will organize short-term courses designed to meet the specific needs of groups from the local or international community.

Before enrolling, prospective students must take the ELP placement test to determine their level of English competence. To be accepted into the program, students must be literate in their first language and obtain a minimum score on the placement test.

Placement Test

	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
Placement Test—September Session	W	1 Morn	Aug 31	$80
Placement Test—November Session	F	1 Morn	Oct 28	$80
Intensive Day Courses—September Session	M-F	34 Morn or Aftn	Sept 6	$1,850*
Intensive Day Courses—November Session	M-F	34 Morn or Aftn	Nov 1	$1,850*
English for Academic Purposes (EAP)	M-R	33 Morn or Aftn	Sept 7	$1,850*
– September (ESL 140 – ESL 145)				
– November (ESL 140 – ESL 145)	M-R	33 Morn or Aftn	Nov 2	$1,850*
– Preparing for Graduate Studies: ESL 550	MWF		Sept 7	$1,875*
– iBT® for University Admission	M-F	30 Aftn	Sept 12	$1,450*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Note*: Each Intensive Day Course session lasts 7 weeks. Cost includes tuition, mandatory health insurance, health services and student services fees. ESL 140 through 145 are English for Academic Purposes (EAP) courses. These courses are meant especially for students who wish to enter academic degree programs at an English-speaking university or college.

Intensive Day Program

In the IDP, students learn the communication skills needed to function, efficiently and effectively in professional and social settings. The four skills – listening, speaking, reading, and writing – are balanced through our language instruction in a friendly and positive English-speaking environment. New students write a placement test prior to registration, then build their confidence in using English through constant feedback and encouragement from our instructors. In our classes, audio-visual materials and interactive language software are used extensively in addition to textbooks.

Day Courses

	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
INTENSIVE DAY PROGRAM (LEVELS 1-8)				
ESL 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135 & Business English)				
September Session	M-F	Morn or Aftn	Sept 6	$1,850*
November Session	M-F	Morn or Aftn	Nov 1	$1,850*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Note*: Each Intensive Day Course session lasts 7 weeks. Cost includes tuition, mandatory health insurance, health services and student services fees. ESL 140 through 145 are English for Academic Purposes (EAP) courses. These courses are meant especially for students who wish to enter academic degree programs at an English-speaking university or college.

English for Academic Purposes

ESL 140 and ESL 145 are a two-part series of English for Academic Purposes (EAP) courses that help advanced ESL students improve their academic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students who successfully complete these courses will be able to synthesize information from a variety of academic sources, analyze materials, and present their ideas in accordance with first-year university standards. ESL 140 and ESL 145 are one option that students may take to meet the English Language Proficiency requirement for undergraduate admission of the University of Alberta.

English for Academic Purposes (EAP)

	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES (EAP)				
(ESL 140-ESL 145)				
September Session	M-R	Morn or Aftn	Sept 7	$1,850*
November Session	M-R	Morn or Aftn	Nov 2	$1,850*
iBT® for University Admission	M-F	Aftn	Sept 12	$1,450*
PREPARING FOR GRADUATE STUDIES				
(ESL 550)	MWF	Morn or Aftn	Sept 7	$1,875*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Evening Courses

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXELP	7120	FA1	English for Everyday Situations*	MW	13 eve	Sept 12	$300
EXELP	7120	FA2	English for Everyday Situations *	MW	13 eve	Nov 7	$300
EXELP	7121	FA1	Conversations in English*	MW	13 eve	Sept 12	$300
EXELP	7121	FA2	Conversations in English *	MW	13 eve	Nov 7	$300
EXELP	7122	FA1	English for Academic Environments*	MW	13 eve	Sept 12	$300
EXELP	7122	FA2	English for Academic Environments *	MW	13 eve	Nov 7	$300
EXELP	7123	FA1	Presentations for Academics & Professionals*	MW	13 eve	Sept 12	$300
EXELP	7123	FA2	Presentations for Academics & Professionals *	MW	13 eve	Nov 7	$300
EXELP	7124	FA1	Pronunciation: From Sounds to Phrases*	TR	13 eve	Sept 13	$300
EXELP	7124	FA2	Pronunciation: From Sounds to Phrases *	TR	13 eve	Nov 8	$300
EXELP	7125	FA1	Pronunciation: Phrases and Beyond*	TR	13 eve	Sept 13	$300
EXELP	7125	FA2	Pronunciation: Phrases and Beyond *	TR	13 eve	Nov 8	$300
EXELP	7126	FA1	Writing Basics	TR	13 eve	Sept 13	$300
EXELP	7126	FA2	Writing Basics	TR	13 eve	Nov 8	$300
EXELP	7127	FA1	Writing Beyond the Basics	TR	13 eve	Sept 13	$300
EXELP	7127	FA2	Writing Beyond the Basics	TR	13 eve	Nov 8	$300
EXELP	7075	FA1	Writing for Academic Purposes	TR	13 eve	Sept 13	$300
EXELP	7075	FA2	Writing for Academic Purposes	TR	13 eve	Nov 8	$300
EXELP	7088	FA1	Thesis Writing for International Students	TR	13 eve	Sept 13	$300
EXELP	7088	FA2	Thesis Writing for International Students	TR	13 eve	Nov 8	$300

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Admission requirement: Before enrolling, contact the ELP Office at 492-5530 or 492-3036 to make an appointment for a required oral /speech test at a fee of $10.

780.492.5530 or 780.492.3036

website: www.elp.alberta.ca
email: elpinfo@ualberta.ca

Languages

"If we spoke a different language, we would perceive a somewhat different world." ~ Ludwig Wittgenstein

Access an expanding global market, visit foreign countries, and connect with more people–all through developing skills in a second language.

Learning a language is more than making unusual sounds and learning a new alphabet. It's about communicating and understanding. It is a cultural experience. As you develop your vocabulary and perfect your pronunciation of a new language, you will find delight in the cadence, idioms and forms of expression. And through the words and sentences that you learn, you will gain insight into how others around the globe view their world. Whether your career would benefit from a new language, you are fascinated by other countries and cultures, or you have a yen for travel, our language classes open up a world of possibilities.

Spanish Language Certificate

Planning to travel in a Spanish-speaking country? Doing business in Latin America? Or are you simply interested in learning about a new culture and language? The courses in our Spanish Language Certificate offer the opportunity to learn the language in intimate classes formatted in short modules that let you begin at whatever level suits your skills.

Find out more about our Spanish Language Certificate at our Information Session held on Tuesday, August 23 from 6-7 pm in Room 2-976, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue.

780.492.3034
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/languages
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

Chinese (Mandarin)

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	3155	FA1	Chinese (Mandarin) I	M	12 eve	Sept 12	$355*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

* Plus GST

French

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	3114	FA1	French I	M	12 eve	Sept 12	$355
EXGEN	3114	FA2	French I	W	12 eve	Sept 14	$355
EXGEN	3109	FA1	French II	M	12 eve	Sept 12	$355
EXGEN	3139	FA1	French III	W	12 eve	Sept 14	$355
EXGEN	3247	FA1	French IV	R	12 eve	Sept 15	$355

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

German

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	3397	FA1	German I	T	12 eve	Sept 13	$355*
EXGEN	3398	FA1	German II	R	12 eve	Sept 15	$355*
EXGEN	3436	FA1	German VI	W	12 eve	Sept 14	$395*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

* Plus GST

Italian

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	3116	FA1	Italian I	M	12 eve	Sept 12	$355*
EXGEN	3117	FA1	Italian II	W	12 eve	Sept 14	$355*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

* Plus GST

Japanese

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	3138	FA1	Japanese I	M	12 eve	Sept 12	$355*
EXGEN	3418	FA1	Japanese IV	W	12 eve	Sept 14	$355*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

* Plus GST

Spanish

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXSLC	3119	FA1	Spanish Module 1	W	7 eve	Sept 7	$285
EXSLC	3119	FA2	Spanish Module 1	R	7 eve	Sept 8	$285
EXSLC	3119	FA3	Spanish Module 1	T	7 eve	Oct 18	$285
EXSLC	3125	FA1	Spanish Module 2	W	7 eve	Sept 7	$285
EXSLC	3125	FA2	Spanish Module 2	W	7 eve	Oct 26	$285
EXSLC	3125	FA3	Spanish Module 2	R	7 eve	Oct 27	$285
EXSLC	3377	FA1	Spanish Module 3	M	12 eve	Sept 12	$355
EXSLC	3132	FA1	Spanish Module 4	T	12 eve	Sept 13	$355

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

Writing and Editing

"For me, writing is exploration; and most of the time, I'm surprised where the journey takes me." ~ Jack Dann

To get ahead, either in your working career or studies—whatever your discipline, improved writing abilities can help. Clear communication is essential – for life in general. Let us help you develop your writing skills.

Explore the clear expression of ideas, create interesting characters that amuse, write meaningful poetry, or move from pen to print or the Internet. Guided by professional writers, many of whom have won prestigious awards, our writing courses will help you transform your thoughts into effective and inspired writing.

780.492.3093
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/writing
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

Writing Essentials

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	3797	FA1	Grammar for Effective Writing	T	8 eve	Oct 4	$295*
EXGEN	3112	FA1	Writing Skills: Improving Style and Clarity	W	8 eve	Oct 5	$295*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Editing

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	3133	FA1	A Practical Guide to Proofreading	S	2 days	Sept 24	$225*
EXGEN	3147	FA1	Introduction to the Craft of Editing	M	7 eve	Oct 17	$315*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Professional and Specialty Writing

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	3359	FA1	Writing for the Web	M	1 day	Oct 3	$195*
EXGEN	3793	FA1	Writing in the Workplace	RF	2 days	Oct 20	$395*
EXGEN	3986	WI1	Trends in Social Media Writing (for Business and Non-Profits)	S	1 day	Jan 28	$195*
EXGEN	3405	FA1	Technical Writing: Procedures and Manuals	T	4 eve	Sept 20	$315*
EXGEN	3977	FA1	Writing for Magazines	W	8 eve	Sept 28	$295*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Creative Writing

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	3181	FA1	Writing the Novel	F/S	3 eve/3 days	Sept 30	$315*
EXGEN	3113	FA1	Introduction to Creative Writing	R	8 eve	Oct 6	$295*
EXGEN	3987	FA1	Introduction to Screenwriting **	M	8 eve	Sept 26	$295
EXGEN	3780	FA1	Elements of Creative Nonfiction	RF/S	2 eve/1 day	Nov 17	$255*
EXGEN	3787	FA1	Unlocking the Muse: Meditation and Creativity	F/SD	1 eve/2 days	Dec 2	$255*
EXGEN	3144	WI1	Write That Book and Get it Published!	S	1 day	Jan 28	$165*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST
** Co-sponsored with FAVA - Film & Video Arts Society-Alberta

Creative Writing (Online delivery)

subject	catalog #	section		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXGEN	3407	FA1	Creative Writing (Online delivery)		8 wks	Oct 11	$315 *
EXGEN	3799	FA1	Effective Social Media Communication (Online delivery)		8 wks	Sept 26	$315 *

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Women's Writing

	duration	starts
19th Annual Women's Words: Summer Writing Week - www.womenswords.ca	10 days	June 1-10, 2012

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Online Graduate Course – Winter 2012

New Media Narratives: Writing and Publishing in a Developing Field (COMM 597)

An open studies and elective course offered by the Communications and Technology Graduate Program, Faculty of Extension, U of A

For details phone 780.492.1501
email: eileen.crookes@ualberta.ca
www.mact.ca

Communications and Technology

"In this electric age we see ourselves being translated more and more into the form of information, moving toward the technological extension of consciousness," wrote Marshall McLuhan in 1964, in an insightful comment that has taken on new meaning in the age of the Internet. We can ask the same questions about the art and symbols of the ice age that we do about the electronic networks of today's organizations. How does a medium of communication come into being? What influences do new communications technologies have on people's everyday lives? And how do individuals and groups act to change communications practices?

The Communications and Technology Graduate Program at the University of Alberta offers a theoretical, historical and practical examination of the technology-enabled, knowledge-intensive workplace. The Master of Arts in Communications and Technology (MACT) degree is designed for students who seek to provide reflective and informed leadership in the management and use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) in their organizations and fields. These fields include education and training, information technology, public affairs, mass media, marketing, new media production, program design and development, and writing and publishing.

Students from outside of the Alberta capital region, including international students, may register in the program without changing their place of residence. The MACT is a course-based graduate program that requires the completion of 7 core courses, 3 electives, and a final applied research project. Four of the core courses must be completed during the two Spring Institutes held at the University of Alberta each May, with the remaining 3 core courses to be completed online. The core courses are scheduled to permit completion of the degree within two academic years. Students may complete approved electives offered by the University of Alberta or at another recognized university.

Admission requirements are as follows: a four-year degree from a recognized university; a GPA of at least 3.0 (or equivalent); at least three years of relevant professional experience; three application-specific letters of support; and a letter of interest that specifies the applicant's academic or professional area of interest, states how admission to the program would support the applicant's professional practice, and provisionally describes the topic for the final applied research project. Up to 25 students are admitted each year to begin their studies in May.

THE APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR ADMISSION TO BEGIN STUDIES IN MAY 2012 IS DECEMBER 15, 2011.

To find out more about the Master of Arts in Communications and Technology, attend our Information Session on Tuesday, August 23, from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm in Room 2-957, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Ave NW.

780.492.1538
website: www.mact.ca
email: mact@ualberta.ca

Adult and Continuing Education

The Certificate in Adult & Continuing Education (CACE) Program shows you how to develop, coordinate and facilitate adult training programs using effective adult education strategies. Improve your career options while learning from respected instructors and colleagues and having the opportunity to network with other professionals in the field.

Certificate in Adult & Continuing Education (CACE)

The nationally recognized CACE program is designed to assist you develop techniques to help others learn. Learn how to integrate adult learning theory, concepts, and practices to become a more effective adult educator. You will develop skills in planning, managing, teaching and evaluating courses and programs for adult learners. Instructors, trainers, course developers, coordinators, and managers alike, benefit from the applied nature and flexibility the program offers. The program is jointly developed and delivered by a consortium involving the University of Victoria, University of Saskatchewan, University of Manitoba and the University of Alberta. We invite you to discover the lifelong benefits of continuing your professional development through the CACE program.

Find out more about the Certificate in Adult & Continuing Education at our Information Session held on Tuesday, August 23 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm in Room 2-970, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue.

780.492.7237
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/cace
email: adulted@ualberta.ca

Summer Institute and Fall Course Schedule

subject	catalog #			day(s)	duration	starts	cost
EXCACE	5883	FA1	Planning and Delivery of Adult Education*	T	13 wks	Sept 13	$575
EXCACE	5801	FA1	Adult Education Principles and Practice**	WS	10 wks	Sept 14	$575
EXCACE	5927	FA1	Train The Trainer	WRF/RF	5 days	Sept 14	$630
EXCACE	5963	FA1	Understanding & Working with Learning Styles	MTW	3 days	Sept 19	$530
EXCACE	5995	FA1	e-Learning Toolkit	On-line	4 wks	Sept 19	$410
EXCACE	7138	FA1	Facilitation of Adult Learning	M	10 wks	Oct 3	$575
EXCACE	7128	FA1	Perspectives in Adult Literacy	On-line	4 wks	Oct 6	$360
EXCACE	7137	FA1	e-Teaching: Introduction To Developing and Facilitating Online Courses ***Pre-Requisite*** *is e-Learning Toolkit. Experience teaching adult learners is required.*	On-line	10 wks	Oct 11	$575
EXCACE	5710	FA1	Learning Design and Technology Overview, ***Pre-Requisite*** *is e-Learning Toolkit*	Blended	11 wks	Oct 12	$575
EXCACE	5705	FA1	Program Evaluation	M	7 wks	Oct 17	$530
EXCACE	5962	FA1	Action Learning: The Practice of Learning in Real Time	MTW	3 days	Oct 19	$530
EXCACE	5995	FA2	e-Learning Toolkit	On-line	4 wks	Nov 21	$410
EXCACE	5987	FA1	Reflexive Practice	MTW	3 days	Nov 28	$530

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* *Formerly* Program Planning Location: NAIT
** *Formerly* Foundations of Adult Education

* Courses are subject to change.

Please visit our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/cace for the most current information and to register online.

Government Studies

National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration (NACLAA)
Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP)
Applied Land Use Planning (ALUP)

Promoting good government through public policy and public administration continuing education.

National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration (NACLAA Level I) [Local Government Certificate Program (LGCP)] and National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration (NACLAA Level II)

The NACLAA Program integrates theory and practice to foster understanding of local government administration. Courses are delivered online and there is extensive use of discussion and debate. Upon completion of NACLAA – Level I, students can advance their studies further in NACLAA – Level II.

Each course has a secured access website including several forums for student interaction within the online eClass system. Throughout the term, you can discuss issues and network with your fellow students and the instructor(s) from across Canada. You will have the opportunity to share experiences and ideas with your classmates and build on them to enrich your own learning. For more information contact our program office.

Fall Offerings

NACLAA - Level I

The following courses are offered online in September:

- Citizen Engagement and Consultation
- Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP) Foundations
- Local Government
- Local Government Accounting
- Municipal Law I
- Municipal Planning I (currently for LGCP students only)

NACLAA - Level II

The following courses are offered online in September:

- Citizen Engagement and Consultation
- Organizational Design and Management

780.492.6914 or 780.492.2870
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/naclaa
email: lgpnacla@ualberta.ca

For more information, plan to attend our information session Tuesday, August 23 from 7:30 – 8:30 pm in Room 2-957, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Ave NW.

toll free: 1.877.686.4625
fax 780.492.9439
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/naclaa
general email: govstudy@ualberta.ca

Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP) Certificate Program

The IAPP Certificate Program courses focus on fundamental theories related to the ideas, structures, and processes that define appropriate administration of access and privacy legislation at a municipal, provincial, and federal level in Canada. The program aims to develop and enhance managerial leadership capabilities in the access and privacy field, improve administration of the legislation, and promote enlightened democratic government. Courses are delivered online and there is extensive use of discussion and debate.

Fall Offerings*

The following courses are offered online in September:

- Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP) Foundations
- Information Access in a Liberal Democracy
- Health Information Access and Privacy
- Privacy in a Liberal Democracy
- Privacy Applications: Issues and Practices

* Delivery of courses in French - please contact the program for further information

780.492.5052 or 780.492.2862
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/iapp
email: iappuofa@ualberta.ca

Applied Land Use Planning (ALUP) Certificate Program

The ALUP Certificate Program seeks to demonstrate that collaboration, interdependence and teamwork are the essence of effective planning. Our students are involved in various professional roles within municipal government, from development officers, planning technicians and assistants to managers and administrators in smaller municipalities. As such our program is designed to match the complexity of a variety of municipal government planning needs; effective planning necessitates the cooperation of various agents at all levels of the community.

Fall Offerings

The following courses begin in September:

- Citizen Engagement and Consultation- online
- Fundamental of GIS (through ERM Program) – in person
- Land Use and Subdivision design – in person
- Local Government- online
- Municipal Law I - online
- Municipal Planning I - online

780.492.6914 or 780.492.5052
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/alup
email: alup@ualberta.ca

Please check our website for the most update courses:
www.extension.ualberta.ca/alup

FALL 2011 INFORMATION SESSIONS

Find out what part-time study at the U of A can do for you.

DATE: Tuesday, August 23, 2011

LOCATION: All sessions are held at Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue NW

6:00-7:00 pm

Adult & Continuing Education (CACE)	2-970
Business Programs	2-926
Construction Administration	2-938
Fine Arts	2-958
MA Communications & Technology	2-957
Occupational Health and Safety	2-922*
Spanish Language	2-976

7:30-8:30 pm

Business Analysis Professional Citation	2-926
Environmental Resource Management	2-938
Residential Interiors	2-922
Government Studies	2-957

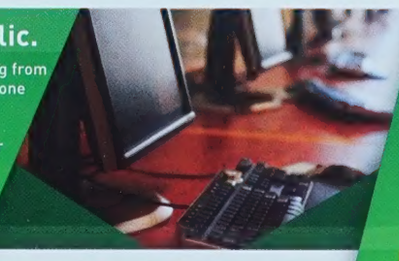
* Also offered in Calgary at Mount Royal University in Room EC2065 on Tuesday, August 23 from 6:00 – 7:00 pm

www.extension.ualberta.ca/infosessions

Computer training for staff, students, and public.

The Technology Training Centre offers standard desktop application training ranging from Microsoft Office to the adobe Creative Suite along with offering customized one-on-one or group training.

With every course taken the TTC offers 6 months support on all courses by phone or email, Option to retake courses within a 6 month period at no additional charge, Top quality instructors that use each of the software packages they teach and with the ability to go beyond what is covered in the outline.



780.492.1397
WWW.TTC.UALBERTA.CA

Courses Offered

MS Office 2007 & 2010
Adobe Creative Suite
Print and Web Design
Statistical Analysis
Database Design
Blackberry
Sharepoint
Moodle
Project Management

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
TECHNOLOGY TRAINING CENTRE

DO MORE WITH YOUR COMPUTER

Course Registration Information

Hours of Operation

Registration/Information Desk

Monday to Thursday
8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (MST)

Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (MST)

Saturday
8:30 a.m. to noon (MST)

Spring - May 1 to May 30
Monday to Friday
8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (MST)

Summer - June 1 to August 31
Monday to Friday
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (MST)

The Registration Office will be closed:
Canada Day – Friday, July 1
Heritage Day – Monday, August 1
Labour Day – Monday, September 5
Thanksgiving – Monday, October 10
Remembrance Day – Friday, November 11

Registrations will be accepted during office hours; however, payments will be processed during cash office hours.

Cash Office Hours

May 1 to August 31
Monday to Friday
8:00 am to 3:30 pm

September 1 to April 30
Monday to Friday
8:30 am to 4:00 pm

For your convenience, you may register using your VISA, MasterCard or AMEX, personal or company cheque, a money order or bank draft, debit card, cash or company invoice.

When payment is by a corporate pay type (credit card, invoice, or cheque), and the corporation is a GST Exempt Entity, a letter confirming the GST Exemption number must accompany the registration.

5 Easy Ways to Register for a Course

Submit a completed Course Registration form indicating your course selection.
You can register by phone using VISA, MasterCard or AMEX during the office hours listed above.
Call us at 780.492.3109 or 780.492.3116.

Online:
Visit our website at **www.extension.ualberta.ca**

By Phone or Fax:
Phone: 780.492.3116
Fax: 780.492.0627

By Mail or in Person:
By Mail: Registration Office, Faculty of Extension, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 4P6

In Person: Drop your registration form and fee payment off at our Registration Office, located on the main floor at Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue.

Payment Options:
- Visa, Mastercard or AMEX
- **Cheque, Bank Draft or Money Order:** made payable to the University of Alberta. (Please remit separate payment for each course)
- **Interac:** if registering in person
- Companies who wish to be invoiced must supply:
  - A Letter of Authorization on company letterhead or Purchase Order
  - Student's Name
  - Course name, number and section
  - Course cost (including GST if the course is taxable. Course cost cannot be split between invoice and another payment type)
  - Signed/approved by someone with signing authority (not the student's signature)
  - A GST reference number if the entity is tax exempt (i.e. Provincial Government)

After you have Registered

Confirmation Notice
Within 10 days you will receive confirmation of your course location, dates and times. If you haven't received confirmation within two weeks of registering, please call our information desk at 780.492.3116.

Education Credit/Tuition Tax Receipt (form T2202A)
Education and tuition tax credit receipts (form T2202A) are generated for students registered in courses that provide credit towards a citation, certificate, diploma or degree. For further information on the Income Tax Act and the tuition and education tax credit interpretation sections, please refer to our website on the topic: **www.extension.ualberta.ca/taxcredit**

Withdrawals and Refunds
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011
If you choose to withdraw from a course, log into Bear Tracks and use the 'Drop' page to withdraw from class or send your withdraw request in writing to the Faculty of Extension Registration Office. An administrative fee will be withheld for all withdrawals.

Please review the withdraw policy online at: **www.extension.ualberta.ca/register/policies**

Contact the Registration Office at 780.492.3116 if you have any questions regarding the withdraw policy.

Transfer Policy
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011
Should you wish to transfer from one Extension course or class section to another, please let us know 5 days before the course start date or, in the case of thirteen week classes, before the 3rd class. A $50 transfer fee will apply.

Course Cancellations
When course enrollments are not sufficient, Extension may cancel the course. In such a case, we will contact you as soon as possible before the course start date and refund in full any fees paid.

Inspired by learning and discovery

In April 2011, the Faculty of Extension migrated into campus solutions, the records management (database) system used by the University of Alberta. This means that all current and new students will use *BearTracks* to access their student record. Please call our Registration Office if you have questions or experience difficulties. Check our website for updates and further details.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF EXTENSION

COURSE REGISTRATION
Faculty of Extension
Ph: 780.492.3116 Fax: 780.492.0627

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY | PROGRAM

LEGAL FIRST NAME | LEGAL MIDDLE NAME | LEGAL LAST NAME

FORMER LAST NAME | DATE OF BIRTH (mm-dd-yyyy) | GENDER: ❒ Male ❒ Female

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Mailing Address):

CITY | PROVINCE | POSTAL CODE

COUNTRY | TELEPHONE ❒ Home ❒ Cell ❒ Work

NEW TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA? Please complete this section

PLACE OF BIRTH (Country)

ABORIGINAL APPLICANTS (Optional):
If you choose to declare that you are of Canadian Aboriginal ancestry within the meaning of the Canadian Constitution Act of 1982, please specify:
❒ I am Status Indian/First Nations ❒ I am Métis
❒ I am Non-Status Indian/First Nations ❒ I am Inuit

EMAIL ADDRESS

Your personal e-mail address will be used to communicate to you until you are assigned a University of Alberta e-mail account. Subsequent communications will be sent to your U of A e-mail address. It is your responsibility to check your U of A email frequently.

CLASS NUMBER (optional)	SUBJECT CODE	CATALOG NUMBER	SECTION	COURSE TITLE	FEE	GST*	TOTAL

*Many of our courses are exempt from GST. Please include GST only if it is indicated in the fee for that course.
**GST EXEMPT ENTITIES: When payment is by a corporate pay type (credit card, invoice, or cheque), and the corporation is a GST Exempt Entity, a letter confirming the GST Exemption number must accompany the registration

CHECK PAYMENT METHOD:
Make cheques or money orders payable to the University of Alberta

❒CASH ❒MONEY ORDER ❒CHEQUE ❒INDENT/HRDF
❒INVOICE* (include Letter of Authorization or Purchase Order)
*If employer is to be invoiced, please include a Letter of Authorization (LOA) on company letterhead, or an authorized Purchase Order (PO) signed by signing authority (not student).

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

❒CREDIT CARD (MasterCard, Visa, American Express)
Credit Card Number | Expiry (mm-yy)

Name on Card _____

❒ Fax C/C Receipt to: _____ ❒ Attach C/C Receipt

For Office Use Only:

The personal information requested on this form is collected under the authority of Section 33 (c) of the *Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the purpose of registering students, contacting students and tracking enrolment statistics. Questions concerning the collection, use or disposal of this information should be directed to: FOIPP Officer, Faculty of Extension, Enterprise Square, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T5J 4P6. Phone 780.492.5047.

www.extension.ualberta.ca/register

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FACULTY OF EXTENSION
Faculty of Extension
Enterprise Square
10230 Jasper Avenue NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4P6

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF EXTENSION

CONTINUING STUDIES | PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | LIFELONG LEARNING

SPRING 2011

COURSE GUIDE
SPRING 2011

For almost a century, Extension has reached beyond the traditional campus to serve as a bridge between the community and the University of Alberta. Our Faculty and staff are committed to providing lifelong learning activities that encourage and promote leadership, discovery, reflection, communication and service.

Beyond the classroom, the Faculty of Extension is a downtown hub of research in the fields of university-community engagement, regional development, governance, children, youth and families, second language acquisition, public alerting, and communications and technology.

780.492.3109 or 780.492.3116

www.extension.ualberta.ca

Whether you want to reach beyond your current skills on the job, or get more out of life in your leisure time, Extension can be your personal bridge to a lifetime of learning opportunities. Whether it's a seminar or short course, a Certificate Program, or even a post-graduate degree in Communications and Technology, we know you'll find the time and effort well-spent.

Most of our programs and classes do not require a degree or previous post-secondary education — just a desire to learn and to explore the possibilities of a commitment to lifelong learning.

Management Development Certificate Programs

The *Management Development Certificate Program* is widely recognized by employers in government, industry, and many professional associations, for its ability to equip students with practical managerial aptitude and knowledge. This career-enhancing program uses a variety of learning methods to introduce students to core business concepts, and to develop relevant skills.

Courses within this program cover human resource management, financial management, marketing, strategic management, business ethics, and business communication, as well as other vital attributes organizations rely upon their management to fulfill on a daily basis.

Further opportunities are available for those students wishing to specialize in the **Development Certificate for Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists** or the **Management Development Certificate for Police Services** programs. Additionally, some courses are eligible for exemption towards various professional designations including the Certified Management Accountant (CMA), Canadian Institute of Management (CIM), and the Insurance Institute of Canada (FCIP).

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Spring Term 2011

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5690sp1	Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management	FSDR	Call for details	Apr. 15	$545
5596sp1	Human Resources Foundations	FSDR	Call for details	Apr. 29	$545
5576sp1	Interpersonal Communication in Business	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
5577sp1	Introduction to Business Management	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
5578sp1	Introduction to Managerial Economics	W	12 eve	Apr. 13	$545
5579sp1	Introductory Financial Accounting	R	12 eve	Apr. 7	$545
5581sp1	Management Accounting	W	12 eve	Apr. 13	$545
5584sp1	Marketing	FSDR	Call for details	Apr. 15	$545
5587sp1	Organizational Behaviour	R	12 eve	Apr. 7	$545
5587sp2	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	Call for details	May 6	$545
5616sp1	Project Planning and Management	FSDR	Call for details	Apr. 29	$545
5682sp1	Strategic Management	FSDR	Call for details	May 6	$545

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Human Resources Management Certificate Program

The importance of the Human Resources department in the success of an organization cannot be overstated. As a liaison between the individual employee and the organization as a whole, Human Resources practitioners are relied upon by many different stakeholders.

The *Human Resources Management Certificate* is invaluable for anyone working in human resources, as well as for individuals working or aspiring to fill a supervisory role. Courses within this program cover managing organizational change, business place ethics, interpersonal communication, maintaining healthy labour relations, organizational behaviour, and interviewing techniques. Covering the current challenges and issues of today, these courses cultivate greater understanding and effective strategic thinking, while providing students with practical skills that can be applied to the day-to-day operation of the human resources role.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Spring Term 2011

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5596sp1	Human Resources Foundations	FSDR	Call for details	Apr. 29	$545
5597sp1	Human Resources Planning	W	12 eve	Apr. 13	$545
5576sp1	Interpersonal Communication in Business	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
5577sp1	Introduction to Business Management	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
4620sp1	Introduction to Health and Safety	MTWR	4 days	Apr. 4	$545
5578sp1	Introduction to Managerial Economics	W	12 eve	Apr. 13	$545
5587sp1	Organizational Behaviour	R	12 eve	Apr. 7	$545
5587sp2	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	Call for details	May 6	$545
5601sp1	Strategic Human Resources Management	S	6 days	Apr. 16	$545
5602sp1	Techniques of Interviewing	FSDR	Call for details	Apr. 15	$545
5603sp1	Training and Development of the Workforce	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Information Technology Management Certificate Program

Business moves quick. Technology moves just as fast. As an individual working in the information systems industry, you will be involved with both. Keeping pace with the current developments – and learning how to anticipate future trends is not only invaluable, it is crucial.

Based on an understanding that organizational effectiveness depends on how managers acquire, organize, and use information, the *Information Technology Management Certificate Program* has been designed in consultation with information technology practitioners, business managers, and industry experts. Courses within this program cover strategic planning, business management, business communication, evolving technologies, managing change in an organization, and other relevant information. Together, these courses will allow students to develop the necessary skills to effectively integrate information technology into the business environment.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Spring Term 2011

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5618sp1	Computer and Information Systems Security	R	12 eve	Apr. 7	$545
5612sp1	Data Resource Management	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
5576sp1	Interpersonal Communication in Business	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
5577sp1	Introduction to Business Management	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
5616sp1	Project Planning and Management	FSDR	Call for details	Apr. 29	$545

LEGEND M-Monday T-Tuesday W-Wednesday R-Thursday F-Friday S-Saturday D-Sunday

Risk and Insurance Management

Risk Management is the fast-growing discipline of management dealing with the handling of losses which can seriously affect an organization's normal operation.

Courses are offered in cooperation with Risk and Insurance Management Society. The Faculty of Extension also offers courses that lead towards the FCIP (Fellow Chartered Insurance Professional) offered through the Insurance Institute of Canada.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Spring Term 2011

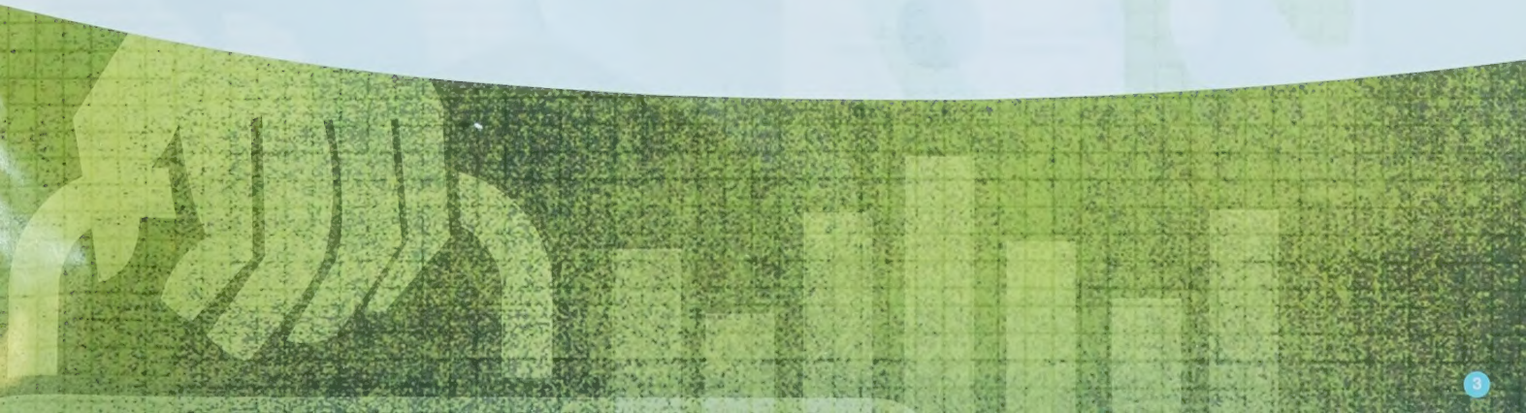
course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5628sp1	Evidence	W	12 eve	Apr. 13	$545
5631sp1	Risk Financing	W	12 eve	Apr. 13	$545

LEGEND M-Monday T-Tuesday W-Wednesday R-Thursday F-Friday S-Saturday D-Sunday

Professional Associations providing Additional Accreditation

Many of the courses offered in Business Certificate Programs can be used to receive recognition from many respected and valued professional associations. Professional designations in such areas as accounting, purchasing, management, risk and insurance,and human resources can be completed by taking courses through the University of Alberta. For a complete listing of partnered professional associations please call 780.492.3027 or check our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/business.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca



Business Analysis Professional Citation Program

The Business Analyst works as a catalyst for new growth within a business. Using tasks and techniques to identify business needs – and then making recommendations on the best solution – it is a position that can produce large organizational change and create incredible technological advancement.

The *Business Analysis Professional Citation* from the University of Alberta Faculty of Extension is significantly different from other programs currently offered. Whereas many other programs choose specific aspects of Business Analysis to teach, our program focuses on the entire lifecycle of a project – from initiation and diagnosis through to successful implementation of the solution.

Aimed at individuals positioned between business and technology, this program will be extremely beneficial for Business Managers, Project Managers, and System Analysts.

The curriculum for this course has been endorsed by the International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA), an international not-for profit professional association for business analysis professionals. The IIBA develops and maintains business analysis standards and certification. More information on the IIBA may be found on their website, www.theiiba.org.

IIBA™ Endorsed Education Provider

Spring Term 2011

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
05687sp1	Introduction to Business Analysis	FS	2 wknd	Apr. 1	$845
05689sp1	Analyzing Information, Processes, and Workflow	MTW	3 days	Apr. 11	$845
05690sp1	Communication Success Factors	MT	2 days	May 9	$645
05688sp1	Understanding and Gathering Requirements	SD	1 wknd	May 14	$645
05691sp1	Solutions, Design and Testing	MTW	3 days	May 30	$845
05692sp1	Implementation: Deployment, Training and Closure	MT	2 days	Jun. 20	$645

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/business
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Adult and Continuing Education

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780.492.7237
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/cace
email: adulted@ualberta.ca

Spring Term 2011

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5801sp1	Foundations of Adult Education	S	6 wks/days	Apr. 2	$520
57138sp1	Facilitation of Adult Learning, *check the website for specific dates*	D/T	Blended	Apr. 17	$520
5996sp1	Enhancing Emotional Competencies	S	4 wks/days	Apr. 9	$530
57123sp1	Storytelling and Leadership	MTW	3 days	Apr. 18	$480
5927sp1	Train The Trainer, *check the website for specific dates*	WRF/RF	2 wks/5 days	Apr. 27	$630
57131sp1	Creating Training Manuals That Work, *check the website for face to face dates*	Blended	4 wks	May 5	$435
5711sp1	Adult Learning and Development, *check the website for specific dates*	S/T	4 wks/days	Jun. 4	$520
57132sp1	Thinking Styles: How they affect learning and facilitation	F	2 wks	Jun. 10	$530

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Courses are subject to change.

Supervisory Development Citation Program

Our Supervisory Development Citation Program provides the up-to-date information and advice you need to become an effective leader in your work environment. Whether you already supervise staff or are planning to move your career in that direction, you will benefit from this practical program that focuses on the key areas of leadership.

Compulsory Seminars
Principles of Supervision (16 hours)
Interpersonal Communications (16 hours)
Creating Effective Work Groups (16 hours)
The Supervisor as a Trainer (16 hours)
Interviewing Techniques for Supervisors (16 hours)
Supervisory Summation (16 hours)

Elective Seminars
Supervising in the Union Environment (16 hours)
The Law and the Supervisor (16 hours)

The program schedule is flexible, offering you a variety of dates to choose from. To graduate, you will complete six required seminars and one elective (listed above). Group discounts are available for organizations enrolling more than three people at one time in any one seminar. For more information, call 780.492.5066 or 780.492.8315.

Key Supervisory/Team Skills

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5314sp1	Interviewing Techniques for Supervisors	RF	2 days	Apr. 7	$395
5315sp1	Supervising in the Union Environment	RF	2 days	Apr. 14	$395
5316sp1	The Law and the Supervisor	MT	2 days	Apr. 18	$395
5317sp1	Supervisory Summation	RF	2 days	Apr. 28	$395
5317sp2	Supervisory Summation	MT	2 days	May 2	$395
5317sp3	Supervisory Summation	RF	2 days	May 5	$395

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Business Seminars and Short Courses

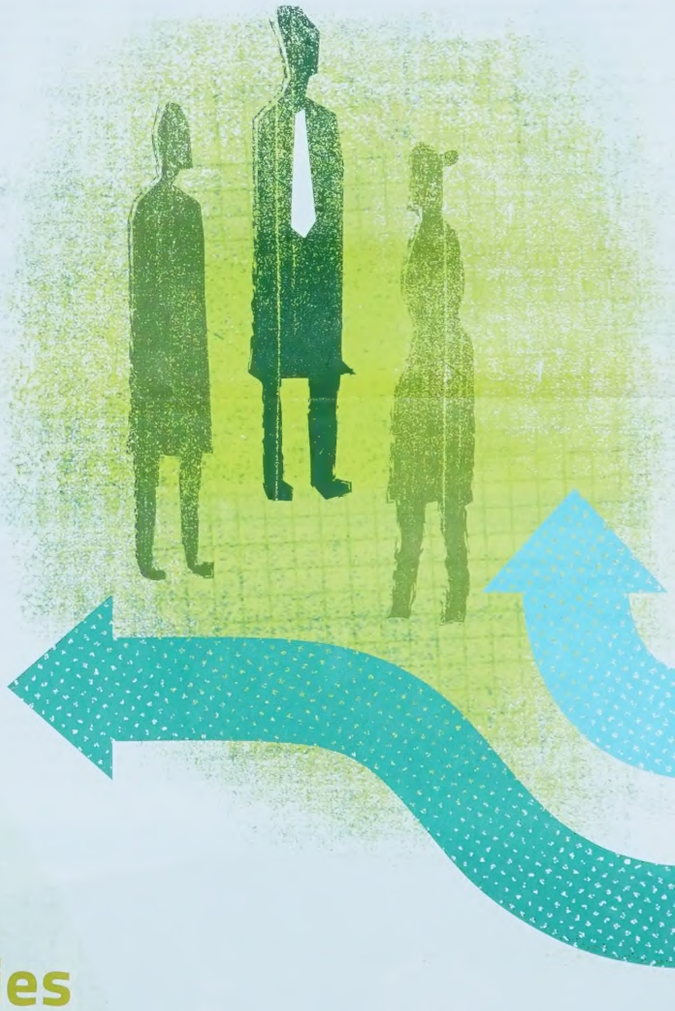
Management Seminars

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5377sp1	Successful People Management	MT	2 days	Apr. 4	$425*
5399sp1	First Things First™: Enhancing Personal and Professional Effectiveness	MT	2 days	Apr. 11	$925*
5398sp1	Strategic Leadership™: Leading for Results	WR	2 days	Apr. 13	$925*
5414sp1	The Excellent Assistant	RF	2 days	Apr. 28	$445*
5360sp1	Finance for Nonfinancial Managers	TW	2 days	May 10	$425*
5411sp1	Multi-generations at Work	F	1 day	May 13	$345*
5353sp1	Basic Accounting for Nonaccountants	MTW	3 days	May 16	$445*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday
* Plus GST

Thinking of in-house training? We can help you by exploring possibilities for training within your organization. **Call 780.492.8315.**

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca



Professional Practice Studies

As a professional, you are always looking for ways to further your career and education by bridging your current learning into future opportunities.

In today's global work world, professionals at all levels are finding that continually enhancing knowledge and expertise is a powerful way to increase your competitive edge as well as contribute towards the positive enrichment of your corporation's culture and operations. The Faculty of Extension's new Professional Practice Studies allows you to specialize in areas of specific interest to enhance your skills and knowledge in a targeted subject area. Each specialization will provide approximately 50 hours of study and upon completion participants will receive recognition of their accomplishment.

Students may focus on the following specializations:

- Workplace Communication*
- Conflict Resolution*
- Financial Management*
- Management Bootcamp*
- Workplace Coaching*

* For the complete listing of program requirements please visit our website at: **www.extension.ualberta.ca/business**.

We are committed to help you achieve your personal and professional goals.

Occupational Health and Safety

Concern for the promotion of health and safety in the workplace is increasing among workers and employers across all industries. Consequently, the demand for occupational health and safety professionals is also increasing. This certificate program is designed to help practitioners from many different backgrounds develop the competencies needed to be effective in the development, implementation, and evaluation of occupational health and safety programs and systems in a wide variety of occupational settings.

The program consists of 6 core courses, 78 hours of core elective courses and 35 hours of elective enrichment seminars. The University of Alberta's Occupational Health and Safety Certificate Program is also offered at the following affiliate colleges: Keyano (Fort McMurray), Red Deer, Grande Prairie, and Medicine Hat.

Classes listed below will be held in Edmonton and Calgary.

Occupational Health and Safety - Edmonton

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
	CORE COURSES				
4620sp1	Introduction to Health and Safety Systems	MTWR	4 days	Apr. 4	$545
4621sp1	Management of Health and Safety Systems	SD	3 wknds	May 28	$545
4622sp1	Fundamentals of Occupational Hygiene	SD	3 wknds	May 7	$545
4623sp1	Applied Occupational Hygiene	TR	13 eve	Apr. 19	$545
4624sp1	Health and Safety Legislation and Policy	WRF	3 days	Jun. 8	$545
5587sp1	Organizational Behaviour	R	12 eve	Apr. 7	$545
5587sp2	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	2 wknds	May 6	$545
	CORE ELECTIVE COURSES				
4575sp1	Fundamentals of Auditing	TWRF	4 days	May 17	$545
4631sp1	How to be an Effective Safety Trainer	TWRF	4 days	Apr. 26	$545
5576sp1	Interpersonal Communication in Business	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
5603sp1	Training and Development of the Workforce	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
	ELECTIVE SEMINARS				
4560sp1	Conflict and Confrontation	RF	2 days	Jun. 2	$425
4562sp1	Coping with Stress	F	1 day	May 13	$325
4574sp1	Fire Safety Program	SD	2 days	May 7	$425
4579sp1	Incident Investigation	MT	2 days	Jun. 13	$425
4628sp1	Toxicology: Effects and Hazards	F	1 day	May 6	$325
	GENERAL INTEREST				
4563sp1	CRSP Exam Preparation	SD	2 day	Apr. 16	$949*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Occupational Health and Safety - Online

course #		starts	cost
46201sp1	Introduction to Health and Safety Systems	Apr. 19	$595
46401sp1	Organizational Behaviour	Apr. 18	$595

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Occupational Health and Safety - Calgary

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4624sp3	Health and Safety Legislation and Policy	MTW	3 days	Jun. 27	$545
4609sp3	Safety Hazard Recognition, Evaluation & Control	SD	2 wknds	May 28	$545
4568sp3	Emergency Management	SD	2 days	May 2	$425
4579sp3	Incident Investigation	RF	2 days	Apr. 28	$425
4584sp3	Managing Contractor Safety Performance	RF	2 days	Jun. 23	$425

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

780.492.3037
toll free: 1.800.808.4784
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/ohs
email: ohs@ualberta.ca

Environmental Resource Management Certificate Program

The Environmental Resource Management Certificate Program (ERM) is designed for:

- Individuals transitioning into the environmental field
- Mid-level experienced professionals who want to enhance and update their skills and knowledge
- Individuals who wish to achieve manager-level responsibilities in the field of environmental resource management
- Individuals who wish to broaden their environmental skills
- Individuals with experience in private organizations or public agencies dealing with natural resources or the environment.

The ERM certificate program provides familiarity and competence in understanding the dynamics of environmental resource management, the strategies and techniques of environmental planning and management, and the biological, physical, social, economic and institutional implications of resource decisions. Students also become familiar with various quantitative methods of analysis and aids to decision making. The ERM courses blend theory and practical exercises to help students develop the comprehensive set of skills and understanding the students' need to succeed. It offers a thorough background in air, water and soil processes, and environmental monitoring, biotechnology, instrumentation and experimental design.

Certified Canadian Environmental Practitioner

ERM Graduates are eligible to apply for the Canadian Certified Environmental Practitioner-in-Training designation, CEPIT, under CECAB's (The Canadian Environmental Certification Approvals Board) National Certification Program for Canadian Environmental Practitioners. The CEPIT certification is seen as a stepping stone to becoming a Canadian Certified Environmental Practitioner (CCEP). To apply for a CCEP, applicants must have a two or three year diploma or degree in addition to a minimum five years of Canadian environmental work experience.

For more information on CECAB, please go to www.cecab.org

Spring Course Schedule

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4286sp1	Remediation Technologies	RFS	3 days	Apr. 7	$565
4291sp1	Applied Hydrogeology in Alberta	RFS	3 days	Apr. 28	$565
4235sp1	Mold: Problems and Solutions for Construction Stakeholders	RFS	3 days	May 5	$495
4280sp1	Wetlands Ecology and Remediation	RFS	3 days	May 12	$565
4277sp1	Risk Communication	WRF	3 days	May 25	$565

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

NB: Courses are subject to change. Please visit our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/erm for the most current information and to register online.

780.492.5532 or 780.492.3158
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/erm
email: erm@ualberta.ca

Construction Administration Certificate Program

How can you enter or advance in this exciting, high-growth field? This certificate provides the fundamental areas of construction administration. Develop and expand your managerial skills in courses developed and approved by U of A and accredited by ***Canadian Construction Association*** for *Gold Seal Accreditation.*

If you desire a career change in the construction field, this program will help you gain knowledge essential to success in the field. Or, if you work in the construction industry, design, project management, manufacturing and supply, development, or real estate, and are seeking the competitive edge to further your career, this certificate will greatly increase your competency, and ability to compete and advance. This program builds your understanding of the planning, technical, financial, and legal aspects of the construction business.

Spring Course Schedule

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4218sp1	Computer Assisted Project Planning (Elective)	RF	2 days	Apr. 7	$475
4205sp1	Comprehensive Seminar for Construction Administration (Core)**	MT	2 days	May 2	$475
4535sp1	Mold: Problems and Solutions for Construction Stakeholders (Elective)	RFS	3 days	May 5	$495
4204sp1	Fundamentals of Project Management (Core)	FSM	4 days/2 eve	May 13	$545
4584sp3	Managing Contractor Safety Performance (Elective) (Calgary)	RF	2 days	Jun 23	$425

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

** *Comprehensive Seminar for Construction Administration* must be taken as the final class in the program.

NB: Courses are subject to change. Please visit our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/cst for the most current information and to register online.

General Interest Courses

Construction Project Management Workshop Series

This workshop series is a must for anyone who wishes to develop project management skills and advance in their construction career. The courses will be of interest to engineers, architects, facilities managers, construction managers, contractors, inspectors, developers, operations managers, superintendents, estimators, controllers, designer/builders, PMO members and managers, or graduates who want to start a career or seek postgraduate education in project management. These courses are also for senior managers and executives who are considering enhancing their organizational project performance.

These courses are not part of the Construction Administration Certificate Program

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4776sp1	Proactive Risk Management Tools & Techniques	FS	2 days	Apr. 1	$799*
4777sp1	Team Building and Leadership	FS	2 days	May 6	$799*
4778sp1	Project Delivery Systems	FS	2 days	Jun. 3	$799*
4779su1	Advanced Construction Contract Management	FS	2 days	July 8	$799*
4780su1	Construction Claims Prevention & Management	FS	2 days	Aug. 5	$799*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

780.492.5532 or 780.492.3158
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/cst
email: cst@ualberta.ca

Fine Arts

"If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint' then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced." ~ Vincent Van Gogh

Art expresses who we are, where we are going, where we have been, and what we might become. It compels us to engage our minds, think in new ways, and to use our most precious gift, our imagination. Offering studio instruction with professional artists, critique and practice, our Fine Arts courses help you build a portfolio reflective of your artistic vision and mastery.

Spring Term

course #		CORE CERTIFICATE COURSES	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3005sp1		Drawing I **	T	10 eve	Apr. 12	$385*
3006sp1		Drawing II	M	10 eve	Apr. 11	$385*
3308sp1		Landscape and Interior Drawing	W	10 aftn	Apr. 13	$385*
3011sp1		Painting II	T	10 aftn	Apr. 12	$385*
3012sp1		Painting III	R	10 eve	Apr. 14	$385*
3527sp1		Watercolour III	S	10 morn	Apr. 9	$385*
3260sp1		Project Course				$385*
		ELECTIVE COURSES				
3530sp1		Drawing En Plein Air	F/S	1 eve/2 day	May 27	$235***
3542sp1	NEW!	Contemporary Thematic Development	S	5 morn	Apr. 9	$195*
3325sp1		Techniques of the Old Masters	M	10 eve	Apr. 11	$385*
3356sp1		Oriental Brushwork Workshop	S/D	4 days	Jun. 11	$195*
3594sp1		Portfolio Development Workshop	W	5 eve	Apr. 13	$195*
3544sp1		Visual Art & Design III	R	10 eve	Apr. 14	$385*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Note: Most morning classes are held from 10 am–1 pm, most afternoon classes are held from 1–4 pm, most day classes are held 9 am–4 pm, and most evening classes are held from 6:30–9:30 pm.

* Fine Arts courses require additional art supplies or materials.
** Drawing is one of the cornerstones of art training and is recommended to students with no previous art experience.
*** Includes admission to Fort Edmonton Park and Elk Island National Park.

• Please visit our website for course prerequisites: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies/finearts.aspx

Fine Arts Certificate Courses

Our certificate program offers three streams to choose from – drawing, painting, and watercolour. Each stream is comprised of 8 core courses (240 hours) plus 60 hours of elective courses and workshops.

Fine Arts Certificate Program students must be 18 or older and hold a high school diploma or equivalent. To enrol in the Fine Arts Certificate Program, students must complete a program application form and provide a non-refundable application fee of $75. Call 780.492.3093 to request a form.

*You **do not** need to be a certificate student to register in Extension Fine Arts courses.*

For a detailed course, brochure contact us at 780.492.3034, or visit our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies

Scholarships Available

The Fine Arts program has a number of scholarships available for certificate students upon application and recommendation of instructors.

780.492.3034
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

Residential Interiors

Residential Interiors Certificate*

Requirement to complete: 351 credit hours (6 core and 3 elective courses)

Learn to deal successfully with the changes and challenges of residential interior decorating.

This certificate, unique in Western Canada, is recognized as an excellent university-level program incorporating the principles of fine arts, architecture, and business. Offering a balanced combination of theory, practice through applied exercises, and industry-specific instruction, this program will enhance your current practice or help you pursue a new career in residential interior decorating.

*While auditing for general interest is permitted, preference for admission will be granted to students enrolled in the Residential Interiors Certificate Program.

Please visit our website for course prerequisites:
www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies/residential_courses.aspx

Spring Term

course #		CORE CERTIFICATE COURSES	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4676sp1		Introduction to Residential Interiors	T/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 12	$535*
4677sp1		Basic Drawing, Drafting and Presentation	R/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 14	$535*
4678sp1		Colour Theory and Application	W/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 13	$535*
4680sp1		Products and Finishes	W/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 13	$535*
4679sp1		Space Planning	T/S	12 aftn/1 morn	Apr. 12	$535*
		ELECTIVE COURSES				
4683sp1		Building Construction	T/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 12	$535*
3510sp1		Computer-Assisted Design (CAD)	R/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 14	$535*
4697sp1		Lighting	M/S	10 aftn/1 day/1 morn	Apr. 11	$535*
4685sp1		Design Studio	D/S	11 aftn/1 day	Apr. 10	$535*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* plus text and/or supplies

Note: Most morning classes are held from 9 am–noon, most afternoon classes are held from 1–4 pm, most day classes are held 9 am–4 pm, and most evening classes are held from 6:30–9:30 pm.

780.492.3093
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

Music, Arts and Humanities

Explore the arts and humanities to develop both your critical and creative faculties and reach a greater understanding of the world around you.

Spring Term

course #			day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3813sp1	NEW	Women in the Classical World	M	6 eve	Apr. 4	$175*
3810sp1	NEW	Edmonton: Culture, History, and Place	R	6 eve	Apr. 7	$175*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* plus GST

Note: Most Evening classes are held from 6–8:30 pm.

780.492.3093
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

18th Annual Women's Words: Summer Writing Week

JUNE 3–12, 2011

"... creative writing is an excellent way to understand ourselves. The world needs all our stories." ~ Kim Echlin

We have designed this program for women with stories – all women, in other words, both established and new writers. Instructors include: Jenna Butler, Kim Echlin, Caterina Edwards, Diana Davidson, Valerie Mason-John, Shirley Serviss, Janice Williamson, Sheri-D Wilson, Padma Viswanathan ... and others.

Women's Words

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
	JUNE 3 TO 5				
3768sp1	Understanding A Writer's Style: Developing Yours	FS	2 days	Jun. 3	$325* **
3761sp1	Writing Motherhood Across Genres and Generations	FS	2 days	Jun. 3	$325* **
3787sp1	Unlocking the Muse: Meditation and Creativity	F/SD	1 eve/2 days	Jun. 3	$325* **
3762sp1	Niche Writing for Magazines	F/SD	1 eve/2 days	Jun. 3	$325* **
	JUNE 6 TO 10: 9 AM – NOON				
3769sp1	Writing Fiction from History	MTWRF	5 morn	Jun. 6	$325* **
3770sp1	Writing as Play, Discovery and Invention	MTWRF	5 morn	Jun. 6	$325* **
3447sp1	Remaking the World Through Creative Nonfiction	MTWRF	5 morn	Jun. 6	$325* **
3176sp1	Writing Personal Essays	MTWRF	5 morn	Jun. 6	$325* **
	JUNE 6 TO 10: 1:30 – 4:30 PM				
3760sp1	Writing Nonfiction for Children	MTWRF	5 aftn	Jun. 6	$325* **
3767sp1	Writing with the Rhythm of the Drum	MTWRF	5 aftn	Jun. 6	$325* **
3766sp1	Surprising Partners: Creative Nonfiction & Poetry	MTWRF	5 aftn	Jun. 6	$325* **
3765sp1	Finding the Unique in Your Family Story	MTWRF	5 aftn	Jun. 6	$325* **
	JUNE 10 TO 12				
3763sp1	Writing Is Good Medicine	S	1 day	Jun. 11	$165*
3764sp1	Chapbook Creation: Poetry & Prose	F/SD	1 eve/2 days	Jun. 10	$325* **

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* plus GST
** $285 if registering in more than one course.

For detailed information on the above courses and on free public events during Summer Writing Week visit our website at: www.womenswords.ca

780.492.3093
website: www.womenswords.ca
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

Writing and Editing

We offer academic, professional, and personal development courses in Writing and Editing.

Spring Term

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3404sp1	Writing and Grammar Skills: Advanced	W	8 eve	Apr. 6	$285*
3133sp1	A Practical Guide to Proofreading	S	2 days	Apr. 2	$225*
3795sp1 NEW	Introduction to New Media Narratives (On-line delivery)**		8 weeks	Apr. 18	$285*
3359sp1	Writing for the Web	R	1 day	May 5	$185*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST
** This course will be offered online through a Web-based conferencing system. You must have an email account and Internet access to enroll; Netscape Communicator 7.1 or Internet Explorer 6.x (or higher) (recommended for Windows computers); Netscape Communicator 7. 1 and Internet Explorer 5.x (recommended for Macintosh computers); and 28.8 kbps modem (or higher).

780.492.3093
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

ELLA SPRING SESSION FOR ADULTS 50+

MAY 2 TO 20, 2011

The Edmonton Lifelong Learners Association (ELLA), a non-profit volunteer organization in cooperation with the U of A Faculty of Extension, offers older adults a 3-week Spring Program with a variety of non-credit courses in the humanities, fine arts, and sciences. Registration covers up to 5 courses daily for three weeks and the noon-hour speakers. There are no exams, prerequisites, homework or pressure! Register early because some courses are capped.

ELLA Membership and Registration Fee:

Membership in ELLA is $20 annually and is required to enroll in the ELLA Spring Session. Registration Fee for the Spring Session is $220 with no Art courses or $245 if you are taking any Art courses (EL31,32,33,61 or 62). Art students purchase their own materials.

ELLA: Spring Session

course #		instructor
	EARLY MORNING CLASS – 7:30 TO 8:45 AM	
EL01	Tai Chi	Hiromi Takahashi
	MID-MORNING CLASSES – 9:00 TO 10:15 AM	
EL11	A Journey Through Science	Torah Kachur and Rheanna Sand
EL12	Religion and Violence	Maryam Razavy
EL13	The Elements of Architecture	Kevin Porter
EL14	Putting the Funny in the Funny Pages	Gary Delainey
EL15	Beginner Computer	Dave Ferraro and Ron Bourassa
	LATE MORNING CLASSES – 10:30 TO 11:45 AM	
EL21	Alberta Ecosystems	Ron Middleton
EL22	The Archaeology of Alberta	Christie Grekul
EL23	More Topics in Canadian History	David Hall
EL24	The History and Appreciation of Jazz	Larry Schrum
EL25	Writing the Personal Essay	Shirley Serviss
EL26	Introduction to Computer Applications	Dave Ferraro and Ron Bourassa
	ALL MORNING ART CLASSES – 9:00 TO 11:45 AM	
EL31	Intermediate Watercolour Landscape Painting	Frances Alty-Arscott
EL32	Intermediate Oil and Acrylic Painting	Izabella Orzelski-Konikowski
EL33	Int. Drawing With Pen and Ink and Mixed Media	Ron Wigglesworth
	EARLY AFTERNOON CLASSES – 1:15 TO 2:30 PM	
EL41	Understanding India's Social & Religious Diversity	Aloka Parasher-Sen
EL42	The Anthropology of Health and Healing	Helen Vallianatos
EL43	What Are You Looking At?	Kathryn Fraser
EL44	Getting More Out of the Internet	Michael Gravel
EL45	Cardio Salsa Dance Exercise	Maria Yakula
	MID-AFTERNOON CLASSES – 2:45 TO 4:00 PM	
EL51	Healthy Aging	Kathleen Hunter, Belinda Parke, Peter McCracken
EL52	Famines: Past, Present and Future	Margaret-Ann Armour
EL53	The Healing Powers of Music	Carla Rugg
EL54	Canadian Short Stories	Sumana SenBagchee
EL55	Stretch and Refresh: Introductory Hatha Yoga	Judy Murphy
EL56	Fun on the Road to Functional Fitness	Darlene Syrotuik
	ALL AFTERNOON ART CLASSES – 1:15 TO 4:00 PM	
EL61	Beginner Oil and Acrylic Painting	Frank Haddock
EL62	Beginner Watercolour Painting	Willie Wong

ELLA Edmonton Lifelong Learners Association

780.492.5055
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/ella
To register or to get more information, call the ELLA office (Mon, Wed and Fri, 10 am to 2 pm)

Languages

"A different language is a different vision of life." ~ Federico Fellini

Chinese (Mandarin)

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3488sp1	Chinese II (Mandarin)	W	12 eve	Apr. 13	$345*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

French

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3114sp1	French I	M/W	12 eve	May 2	$345
3109sp1	French II	M/W	12 eve	May 2	$345
3258sp1	French V	M/W	12 eve	May 2	$345

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

German

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3397sp1	German I	T	10 eve	Apr. 12	$345*
3398sp1	German II	R	10 eve	Apr. 14	$345*
3400sp1	German IV	W	10 eve	Apr. 13	$345*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

780.492.3034
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

Italian

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3196sp1	Italian III	M	10 eve	Apr. 11	$345*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Japanese

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3414sp1	Japanese III	W	10 eve	Apr. 20	$345*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Spanish

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3119sp1	Spanish Module 1	R	7 eve	May 5	$275
3125sp1	Spanish Module 2	W	7 eve	May 4	$275*
3377sp1	Spanish Module 3	T/R	12 eve	May 10	$345
3132sp1	Spanish Module 4	M/W	12 eve	Apr. 11	$345
3259sp1	Spanish Seminar 2	T/R	13 eve	May 19	$475

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Spanish Language Certificate

Planning to travel in a Spanish-speaking country? Doing business in Latin America? Or are you simply interested in learning about a new culture and language? The courses in our Spanish Language Certificate offer the opportunity to learn the language in intimate classes formatted in short modules that let you begin at whatever level suits your skills.

English Language Program

Discover a whole new world by studying English at the University of Alberta. Our English Language Program provides a chance to explore interesting ideas, discover another culture and develop new communications skills that will take you around the world. We offer everything from English basics to pronunciation enhancement to university level English in day and evening classes. Small class size means you get lots of opportunity to concentrate on the skills you need and practise along with students from around the world. We also support you with highly qualified instructors and a new state-of-the-art Multimedia Language Learning Centre with Internet access and interactive computer software.

Our Program

Established in 1973, the English Language Program (ELP) enjoys an international reputation for providing a high standard of instruction in English to students from around the world. This standard of excellence is maintained by specialized teaching staff who employ modern teaching approaches and materials. Students use a computerized, state-of-the-art, multi-media language centre. In addition to regular offerings, the ELP will organize short-term courses designed to meet the specific needs of groups from the local or international community.

Before enrolling, prospective students must take the ELP Placement Test to determine their level of English competence. To be accepted into the program, students must be literate in their first language and obtain a minimum score on the Placement Test.

Placement Test

	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
Placement Test—May Session	T	1 morn	May 3	$80

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Intensive Day Program

In the IDP, students learn the communication skills needed to function, efficiently and effectively in professional and social settings. The four skills – listening, speaking, reading, and writing – are balanced through our language instruction in a friendly and positive English-speaking environment. New students write a placement test prior to registration, then build their confidence in using English through constant feedback and encouragement from our instructors. In our classes, audio-visual materials and interactive language software are used extensively in addition to textbooks.

Intensive Day Program

	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
Intensive Day Program (ESL 100-ESL 135, Business English)				
May Session	M-F	morn or aftn	May 6	$1,750*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Note*: Each Intensive Day session lasts 7 weeks. The cost includes tuition, mandatory health insurance, health services and student services fees. ESL 140 through 145 are English for Academic Purposes (EAP) courses. These courses are meant especially for students who wish to enter academic degree programs at an English-speaking university or college.

English for Academic Purposes

ESL 140 and ESL 145 are a two-part series of English for Academic Purposes (EAP) courses that help advanced ESL students improve their academic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students who successfully complete these courses will be able to synthesize information from a variety of academic sources, analyze materials, and present their ideas in accordance with first-year university standards. ESL 140 and ESL 145 are one option that students may take to meet the English Language Proficiency requirement for undergraduate admission of the University of Alberta.

English for Academic Purposes (EAP)

	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
(ESL 140-ESL 145)				
May Session	M-R	morn or aftn	May 12	$1,750*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Evening Courses

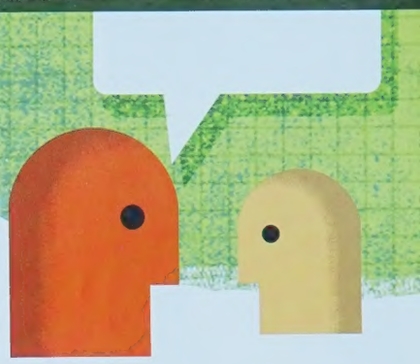
course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
07120sp1	English for Everyday Situations	M/W	13 eve	May 16	$300
07121sp1	Conversations in English	M/W	13 eve	May 16	$300
07122sp1	English for Academic Environments	M/W	13 eve	May 16	$300
07123sp1	Presentations for Academics & Professionals	M/W	13 eve	May 16	$300
07124sp1	Pronunciation: From Sounds to Phrases	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300
07125sp1	Pronunciation: From Phrases & Beyond	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300
07126sp1	Writing Basics	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300
07127wi2	Writing Beyond the Basics	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300
07075sp1	Writing for Academic Purposes	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300
07088sp1	Thesis Writing for International Students	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

780.492.3036 or 780.492.5530
website: www.elp.alberta.ca
email: elpinfo@ualberta.ca

Government Studies

National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration (NACLAA)
Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP)
Applied Land Use Planning (ALUP)



Promoting good government through public policy and public administration continuing education.

National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration (NACLAA – Level I)
[Local Government Certificate Program (LGCP)]
& National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration (NACLAA – Level II)

The NACLAA Program integrates theory and practice to foster understanding of local government administration. Courses are delivered online and there is extensive use of discussion and debate. Upon completion of NACLAA – Level I, students can advance their studies further in NACLAA – Level II.

Each course has a secured access website including several forums for student interaction within the online eClass system. Throughout the term, you can discuss issues and network with your fellow students and the instructor(s) from across Canada. You will have the opportunity to share experiences and ideas with your classmates and build on them to enrich your own learning. For more information contact our program office.

Spring Offerings

NACLAA - Level I

The following courses are offered in April and are condensed to 10 weeks:

- Financial Management
- Human Resource Management
- Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP) Foundations

NACLAA - Level II

The following courses are offered in April and are condensed to 10 weeks:

- Policy Planning and Program Evaluation

780.492.6914 or 780.492.2870
Email: lgpnacla@ualberta.ca

Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP) Certificate Program

The IAPP Certificate Program courses focus on fundamental theories related to the ideas, structures, and processes that define appropriate administration of access and privacy legislation at a municipal, provincial, and federal level in Canada. The program aims to develop and enhance managerial leadership capabilities in the access and privacy field, improve administration of the legislation, and promote enlightened democratic government. Courses are delivered online and there is extensive use of discussion and debate.

Spring Offerings

The following courses begin in April and are condensed to 10 weeks:

- Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP) Foundations
- Privacy in a Liberal Democracy
- Information Access in a Liberal Democracy
- Health Information Access and Privacy

780.492.5052 or 780.492.2862
Email: iappuofa@ualberta.ca

Applied Land Use Planning (ALUP) Certificate Program

The ALUP Certificate Program seeks to demonstrate that collaboration, interdependence and teamwork are the essence of effective planning. Our students are involved in various professional roles within municipal government, from development officers, planning technicians and assistants to managers and administrators in smaller municipalities. As such our program is designed to match the complexity of a variety of municipal government planning needs; effective planning necessitates the cooperation of various agents at all levels of the community.

Spring Offerings

The following courses begin in April and are condensed to 10 weeks:

- Environmental Review of Subdivision Applications – in person
- Land Use and Subdivision Design – in person
- Planning Administration – online
- Urban Environments – in person

780.248.1533
Email: alup@ualberta.ca

toll free: 1.877.686.4625
fax 780.492.0627
website: http://www.extension.ualberta.ca/govstudies
general email: govstudy@ualberta.ca

Communications and Technology

"In this electric age we see ourselves being translated more and more into the form of information, moving toward the technological extension of consciousness," wrote Marshall McLuhan in 1964, in an insightful comment that has taken on new meaning in the age of the Internet. We can ask the same questions about the art and symbols of the ice age that we do about the electronic networks of today's organizations. How does a medium of communication come into being? What influences do new communications technologies have on people's everyday lives? And how do individuals and groups act to change communications practices?

The Communications and Technology Graduate Program at the University of Alberta offers a theoretical, historical and practical examination of the technology-enabled, knowledge-intensive workplace. The Master of Arts in Communications and Technology (MACT) degree is designed for students who seek to provide reflective and informed leadership in the management and use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) in their organizations and fields. These fields include education and training, information technology, public affairs, mass media, marketing, new media production, program design and development, and writing and publishing.

Students from outside of the Alberta capital region, including international students, may register in the program without changing their place of residence. The MACT is a course-based graduate program that requires the completion of 7 core courses, 3 electives, and a final applied research project. Four of the core courses must be completed during the two Spring Institutes held at the University of Alberta each May, with the remaining 3 core courses to be completed online. The core courses are scheduled to permit completion of the degree within two academic years. Students may complete approved electives offered by the University of Alberta or at another recognized university.

Admission requirements are as follows: a four-year degree from a recognized university; a GPA of at least 3.0 (or equivalent); at least three years of relevant professional experience; three application-specific letters of support; and a letter of interest that specifies the applicant's academic or professional area of interest, states how admission to the program would support the applicant's professional practice, and provisionally describes the topic for the final applied research project. Up to 25 students are admitted each year to begin their studies in May.

The application deadline for admission to begin studies in May 2012 is December 15, 2011.

780.492.1538
website: www.mact.ca
email: mact@ualberta.ca

OFFICE HOURS

September 1 to April 30
Monday to Thursday, 8:30 am-8:00 pm
Friday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Saturday, 8:30 am-noon

May 1 to May 30
Monday to Friday, 8:00 am-7:00 pm

June 1 to August 31
Monday to Friday, 8:00 am-6:00 pm

The Registration Office will be closed:
Good Friday – Friday, April 22
Easter Monday – Monday, April 25
Victoria Day – Monday, May 23
Canada Day – Friday, July 1

For your convenience, you may register using your VISA, MasterCard, personal or company cheque, a money order or bank draft, debit card, cash or company invoice.

When payment is by a corporate pay type (credit card, invoice, or cheque), and the corporation is a GST Exempt Entity, a letter confirming the GST Exemption number must accompany the registration.

Inspired by learning and discovery

COURSE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

5 Easy Ways to Register for a Course

Submit a completed Course Registration form indicating your course selection.
You can register by phone using MasterCard or VISA during the office hours listed above.
Call us at 780.492.3109 or 780.492.3116.

Online:
Visit our website at **www.extension.ualberta.ca**

By Phone or Fax:
Phone: 780.492.3116
Fax: 780.492.0627

By Mail or in Person:
By Mail: Registration Office, Faculty of Extension, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 4P6

In Person: Drop your registration form and fee payment off at our Registration Office, located on the main floor at Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue.

Payment Options:
- Visa, Mastercard
- **Cheque, Bank Draft or Money Order:** made payable to the University of Alberta. (Please remit separate payment for each course)
- **Interac:** if registering in person
- Companies who wish to be invoiced must supply:
  - A Letter of Authorization on company letterhead or Purchase Order
  - Student's Name
  - Course name, number and section
  - Course cost (including GST if the course is taxable. Course cost cannot be split between invoice and another payment type)
  - Signed/approved by someone with signing authority (not the student's signature)
  - A GST reference number if the entity is tax exempt (i.e. Provincial Government)

After you have Registered

Confirmation Notice
Within 10 days you will receive confirmation of your course location, dates and times. If you haven't received confirmation within two weeks of registering, please call our information desk at 780.492.3116.

Education Credit/Tuition Tax Receipt (form T2202A)
Education and tuition tax credit receipts (form T2202A) are generated for students registered in courses that provide credit towards a citation, certificate, diploma or degree. For further information on the Income Tax Act and the tuition and education tax credit interpretation sections, please refer to our website on the topic: **www.extension.ualberta.ca/taxcredit**

Withdrawals and Refunds
If you choose to withdraw from a course, let us know in writing before
- the third class of a regular course term
- the commencement of a short program, seminar or workshop
- the submission date of the first assignment of a correspondence course

An administrative fee will be withheld for all withdrawals.

In some cases, the withdrawal policy may differ from the above. Check the refund/withdrawal policy on your course confirmation notice or check with the appropriate program office if you have any questions regarding a course refund.

Transfers
Should you wish to transfer from one Extension course or class section to another, a transfer fee may apply.

Course Cancellations
When course enrollments are not sufficient, Extension may cancel the course. In such a case, we will contact you as soon as possible before the course start date and refund in full any fees paid.

www.extension.ualberta.ca/register

www.extension.ualberta.ca/register

In April 2011, the Faculty of Extension will migrate from its current student registration and records management system to the central University of Alberta **BearTracks** system. When registering, students may experience changes in procedures and in the user interface online. Please call our Registration Office if you have further questions. Check our website for updates and details of the advantages this integration will bring.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF EXTENSION

REGISTRATION FORM
TEL: 780.492.3109 • 780.492.3116
FAX: 780.492.0627

SPR11 GUIDE | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY | PROGRAM | GENERAL INTEREST ☐Y ☐N

LAST (FAMILY) NAME | FIRST | MIDDLE

APT# | ADDRESS • PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS? ❑ YES ❑ NO

CITY | PROVINCE/STATE | POSTAL / ZIP CODE

TEL (HOME) | EMAIL

BUSINESS NAME | TITLE/POSITION

ADDRESS • PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS? ❑ YES ❑ NO

CITY | PROVINCE/STATE | POSTAL / ZIP CODE

TEL (WORK) | FAX (WORK)

COURSE#	COURSE NAME	FEE	GST*	TOTAL

* Many of our courses are exempt from GST. *Please include GST only if it is indicated in the fee for that course.*
** **GST Exempt Entities:** When payment is by a corporate pay type (credit card, invoice, or cheque), and the corporation is a GST Exempt Entity, a letter confirming the GST Exemption number must accompany the registration.

CHECK METHOD OF PAYMENT:
❑ CASH ❑ CHEQUE
❑ DEBIT ❑ INVOICE
❑ INDENT ❑ MONEY ORDER
❑ CREDIT CARD ❑ HRDF

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
AUTHORIZATION #:
ASSESSED BY:
PO
LOA

* If employer is to be invoiced, please include a letter of authorization or an authorized purchase order.

EXPIRY DATE:
NAME ON CARD:
❑ Provincial Government ❑ Business ❑ Personal

SIGNATURE:
Birth Date ____/____/____ yyyy / mm / dd
❑ Male ❑ Female

DATE (DD/MM/YY):
REGISTRATION METHOD: ❑ Tel ❑ Fax ❑ Mail ❑ Person

How did you hear about this course?
❑ Brochure ❑ Faculty Course Guide ❑ Website ❑ Email
❑ Newspaper ❑ In Class ❑ Word of Mouth ❑ Other

Are you a U of A Alumnus? ❑ Yes ❑ No

If you are paying by cheque or money order, we would appreciate separate payment for each course. Make cheques payable to University of Alberta.

Privacy Statement
The personal information requested on this form is collected under the authority of section 33 (c) of the *Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the purpose of registering students, contacting former students and tracking enrolment statistics. Questions concerning the collection, use or disposal of this information should be directed to: FOIP Officer, Faculty of Extension, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T5J 4P6. Phone (780) 492-5047.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF EXTENSION
Faculty of Extension
Enterprise Square
10230 Jasper Avenue NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4P6

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF EXTENSION

continuing studies
professional development
lifelong learning

winter spring 11

For almost a century, Extension has reached beyond the traditional campus to serve as a bridge between the community and the University of Alberta. Our Faculty and staff are committed to providing lifelong learning activities that encourage and promote leadership, discovery, reflection, communication and service.

Beyond the classroom, the Faculty of Extension is a downtown hub of research in the fields of university-community engagement, regional development, governance, children, youth and families, second language acquisition, public alerting, and communications and technology.

Whether you want to reach beyond your current skills on the job, or get more out of life in your leisure time, Extension can be your personal bridge to a lifetime of learning opportunities. Whether it's a seminar or short course, a Certificate Program, or even a post-graduate degree in Communications and Technology, we know you'll find the time and effort well-spent.

Most of our programs and classes do not require a degree or previous post-secondary education–just a desire to learn and to explore the possibilities of a commitment to lifelong learning.

780.492.3109 or 780.492.3116
www.extension.ualberta.ca

Management Development Certificate Programs

The *Management Development Certificate Program* is widely recognized by employers in government, industry, and many professional associations, for its ability to equip students with practical managerial aptitude and knowledge. This career-enhancing program uses a variety of learning methods to introduce students to core business concepts, and to develop relevant skills.

Courses within this program cover human resource management, financial management, marketing, strategic management, business ethics, and business communication, as well as other vital attributes organizations rely upon their management to fulfill on a daily basis.

Further opportunities are available for those students wishing to specialize in the **Development Certificate for Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists** or the **Management Development Certificate for Police Services** programs. Additionally, some courses are eligible for exemption towards various professional designations including the Certified Management Accountant (CMA), Canadian Institute of Management (CIM), and the Insurance Institute of Canada (FCIP).

Please visit our web-site at **www.extension.ualberta.ca/business** for the most current information and specific program details.

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Winter Term 2011

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5562wi1	Business Finance	W	13 eve	Jan 12	$545
5566wi1	Commercial Law	R	12 eve	Jan 13	$545
5678wi1	Directing and Managing Organizational Change	FSDR	Call for details	Jan 14	$545
5675wi1	Ethics for Business and the Professional	W	13 eve	Jan 12	$545
5596wi2	Human Resources Foundations	FSDR	Call for details	Jan 7	$545
5596wi1	Human Resources Foundations	T	13 eve	Jan 11	$545
5577wi1	Introduction to Business Management	T	13 eve	Jan 11	$545
5577wi2	Introduction to Business Management	FSDR	Call for details	Feb 4	$545
5578wi1	Introduction to Managerial Economics	S	7 days	Jan 15	$545
5579wi1	Introductory Financial Accounting	M	12 eve	Jan 10	$545
5585wi1	Microeconomics	W	13 eve	Jan 12	$545
5581wi1	Management Accounting	T	13 eve	Jan 11	$545
5584wi1	Marketing	W	13 eve	Jan 12	$545
5586wi1	Operations Management	FSDR	Call for details	Mar 4	$545
5587wi1	Organizational Behaviour	R	13 eve	Jan 6	$545
5587wi2	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	Call for details	Feb 11	$545
5587wi3	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	Call for details	Mar 11	$545
5616wi1	Project Planning and Management	R	13 eve	Jan 6	$545
5682wi1	Strategic Management	R	13 eve	Jan 6	$545

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Human Resources Management Certificate Program

The importance of the Human Resources department in the success of an organization cannot be overstated. As a liaison between the individual employee and the organization as a whole, Human Resources practitioners are relied upon by my different stakeholders.

The *Human Resources Management Certificate* is invaluable for anyone working in human resources, as well as for individuals working or aspiring to fill a supervisory role. Courses within this program cover managing organizational change, business place ethics, interpersonal communication, maintaining healthy labour relations, organizational behaviour, and interviewing techniques. Covering the current challenges and issues of today, these courses cultivate greater understanding and effective strategic thinking, while providing students with practical skills that can be applied to the day-to-day operation of the human resources role.

Please visit our web-site at **www.extension.ualberta.ca/business** for the most current information and specific program details.

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

Winter Term 2011

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5678wi1	Directing and Managing Organizational Change	FSDR	call for details	Jan. 14	$545
5675wi1	Ethics for Business and the Professional	W	13 eve	Jan. 12	$545
5596wi2	Human Resources Foundations	FSDR	call for details	Jan. 7	$545
5596wi1	Human Resources Foundations	T	13 eve	Jan. 11	$545
5577wi1	Introduction to Business Management	T	13 eve	Jan. 11	$545
5577wi2	Introduction to Business Management	FSDR	call for details	Feb. 4	$545
5598wi1	Introduction to Employee Benefits	R	13 eve	Jan. 6	$545
4620wi1	Introduction to Health and Safety	MW	13 eve	Feb. 14	$545
4620wi2	Introduction to Health and Safety	SD	call for details	Jan. 15	$545
5578wi1	Introduction to Managerial Economics	S	7 days	Jan. 15	$545
5605wi1	Issues and Trends in Total Compensation	W	13 eve	Jan. 12	$545
5585wi1	Microeconomics	W	13 eve	Jan. 12	$545
5587wi1	Organizational Behaviour	R	13 eve	Jan. 6	$545
5587wi2	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	call for details	Feb. 11	$545
5587wi3	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	call for details	Mar. 11	$545
5601wi1	Strategic Human Resources Management	T	13 eve	Jan. 11	$545

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Information Technology Management Certificate Program

Business moves quick. Technology moves just as fast. As an individual working in the information systems industry, you will be involved with both. Keeping pace with the current developments – and learning how to anticipate future trends is not only invaluable, it is crucial.

Based on an understanding that organizational effectiveness depends on how managers acquire, organize, and use information, the *Information Technology Management Certificate Program* has been designed in consultation with information technology practitioners, business managers, and industry experts. Courses within this program cover strategic planning, business management, business communication, evolving technologies, managing change in an organization, and other relevant information. Together, these courses will allow students to develop the necessary skills to effectively integrate information technology into the business environment.

Please visit our web-site at **www.extension.ualberta.ca/business** for the most current information and specific program details.

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Winter and Spring Term 2011

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5610wi1	Business and Systems Analysis	W	13 eve	Jan. 12	$545
5611wi1	Business Case Management	T	13 eve	Jan. 11	$545
5678wi1	Directing and Managing Organizational Change	FSDR	call for details	Jan. 14	$545
5577wi1	Introduction to Business Management	T	13 eve	Jan. 11	$545
5577wi2	Introduction to Business Management	FSDR	call for details	Feb. 4	$545
5616wi1	Project Planning and Management	R	13 eve	Jan. 6	$545
5618sp1	Computer and Information Systems Security	R	12 eve	Apr. 7	$545
5612sp1	Data Resource Management	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
5576sp1	Interpersonal Communication in Business	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
5577sp1	Introduction to Business Management	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
5616sp1	Project Planning and Management	FSDR		Apr. 29	$545

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

Risk and Insurance Management

Risk Management is the fast-growing discipline of management dealing with the handling of losses which can seriously affect an organization's normal operation.

Courses are offered in cooperation with Risk and Insurance Management Society. The Faculty of Extension also offers courses that lead towards the FCIP (Fellow Chartered Insurance Professional) offered through the Insurance Institute of Canada.

Please visit our web-site at **www.extension.ualberta.ca/business** for the most current information and specific program details.

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

Winter and Spring Term 2011

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5629wi1	Conflict of Laws	W	13 eve	Jan. 12	$545
5630wi1	Risk Control	T	13 eve	Jan. 11	$545
5628sp1	Evidence	W	12 eve	Apr. 13	$545
5631sp1	Risk Financing	W	12 eve	Apr. 13	$545

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

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website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Professional Associations providing Additional Accreditation

Many of the courses offered in Business Certificate Programs can be used to receive recognition from many respected and valued professional associations. Professional designations in such areas as accounting, purchasing, management, risk and insurance,and human resources can be completed by taking courses through the University of Alberta. For a complete listing of partnered professional associations please call 780.492.3027 or check our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/business.

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Business Analysis Professional Citation Program

The Business Analyst works as a catalyst for new growth within a business. Using tasks and techniques to identify business needs – and then making recommendations on the best solution – it is a position that can produce large organizational change and create incredible technological advancement.

The *Business Analysis Professional Citation* from the University of Alberta Faculty of Extension is significantly different from other programs currently offered. Whereas many other programs choose specific aspects of Business Analysis to teach, our program focuses on the entire lifecycle of a project – from initiation and diagnosis through to successful implementation of the solution.

Aimed at individuals positioned between business and technology, this program will be extremely beneficial for Business Managers, Project Managers, and System Analysts.

The curriculum for this course has been endorsed by the International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA), an international not-for profit professional association for business analysis professionals. The IIBA develops and maintains business analysis standards and certification. More information on the IIBA may be found on their website, www.theiiba.org.

IIBA™ Endorsed Education Provider

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/business
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

Courses for Business Analysts Winter and Spring Term 2011

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
05691wi1	Solutions, Design and Testing	MTW	3 days	Jan. 10	$845
05690wi1	Communication Success Factors	SD	1 wknd	Jan. 22	$645
05692wi1	Implementation: Deployment, Training and Closure	MT	2 days	Jan. 31	$645
05691wi2	Solutions, Design and Testing	FS	2 wknd	Feb. 11	$845
05687wi1	Introduction to Business Analysis	MTW	3 days	Feb. 28	$845
05692wi2	Implementation: Deployment, Training and Closure	SD	1 wknd	Mar. 19	$645
05688wi1	Understanding and Gathering Requirements	MT	2 days	Mar. 21	$645
05687sp1	Introduction to Business Analysis	FS	2 wknd	Apr. 1	$845
05689sp1	Analyzing Information, Processes, and Workflow	MTS	3 days	Apr. 11	$845
05690sp1	Communication Success Factors	MT	2 days	May 9	$645
05688sp1	Understanding and Gathering Requirements	SD	1 wknd	May 14	$645
05691sp1	Solutions, Design and Testing	MTW	3 days	May 30	$845
05692sp1	Implementation: Deployment, Training and Closure	MT	2 days	Jun. 20	$645

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

Adult and Continuing Education

The Certificate in Adult & Continuing Education (CACE) Program shows you how to develop, coordinate and facilitate adult training programs using effective adult education strategies. Improve your career options while learning from respected instructors and colleagues and having the opportunity to network with other professionals in the field.

Certificate in Adult & Continuing Education (CACE)

The nationally recognized CACE program is designed to assist you in integrating adult learning theory, concepts, and practices to become a more effective adult educator. You will develop skills in planning, managing, teaching and evaluating courses and programs for adult learners. Instructors, trainers, course developers, coordinators, and managers alike, benefit from the applied nature and flexibility the program offers. We invite you to discover the lifelong benefits of continuing your professional development through the CACE program.

Please visit our website at **www.extension.ualberta.ca/cace** for the most current information and to register online.

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.7237
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/cace
email: adulted@ualberta.ca

Winter/Spring Course Schedule

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5801wi1	Foundations of Adult Education (NAIT)	T	13 eve	Jan. 11	$520
5883wi1	Program Planning, check the website for specific dates	TW/S	8 eve/2 days	Jan. 11	$520
57137wi1	e-Teaching: Introduction to Developing & Facilitating Online Courses	on-line	6 wks	Jan. 17	$520
5927wi1	Train The Trainer, check the website for specific dates	RFS/RF	2 wks/5 days	Jan. 20	$630
57121wi1	Learning and Corporate Culture, Power and Politics	RFS	3 days	Jan. 20	$480
5990wi1	Facilitating Adult Learning, check the website for face to face dates	blended	6 wks	Jan. 31	$520
5711wi1	Adult Learning and Development, check the website for specific dates	T/S	7 days	Feb. 8	$520
5962wi1	Action Learning: The Practice of Learning in Real Time	TWR	3 days	Feb. 8	$480
57129wi1	Connecting The Dots: Program Planning in Adult Literacy	on-line	5 wks	Feb. 14	$350
57122wi1	Fostering an Ethical Culture in Your Workplace	W	7 eve	Mar. 2	$480
57126wi1	Learning and Organizational Design, check the website for specific dates	S	3 wks	Mar. 5	$480
5866wi1	Needs Assessment in Training	T	4 eve	Mar. 8	$435
5807sp1	Foundations of Adult Education	S	6 wks/days	Apr. 2	$520
57138sp1	Facilitation of Adult Learning, check the website for specific dates	D/T	blended	Apr. 3	$520
5996sp1	Enhancing Emotional Competencies	S	4 wks/days	Apr. 9	$530
57123sp1	Storytelling and Leadership	MTW	3 days	Apr. 18	$480
5927sp1	Train The Trainer, check the website for specific dates	WRF/RF	2 wks/5 days	Apr. 27	$630
57131sp1	Creating Training Manuals That Work check the website for face to face dates	blended	4 wks	May 5	$435
5711sp1	Adult Learning and Development, check the website for specific dates	S/T	4 wks/days	Jun. 4	$520
57132sp1	Thinking Styles: How they affect learning and facilitation	F	2 wks	Jun. 10	$530

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

* Courses are subject to change.

Supervisory Development Citation Program

Our Supervisory Development Citation Program provides the up-to-date information and advice you need to become an effective leader in your work environment. Whether you already supervise staff or are planning to move your career in that direction, you will benefit from this practical program that focuses on the key areas of leadership.

Compulsory Seminars
Principles of Supervision (16 hours)
Interpersonal Communications (16 hours)
Creating Effective Work Groups (16 hours)
The Supervisor as a Trainer (16 hours)
Interviewing Techniques for Supervisors (16 hours)
Supervisory Summation (16 hours)

Elective Seminars
Supervising in the Union Environment (16 hours)
The Law and the Supervisor (16 hours)

The program schedule is flexible, offering you a variety of dates to choose from. To graduate, you will complete six required seminars and one elective (listed above). Group discounts are available for organizations enrolling more than three people at one time in any one seminar. For more information, call 780.492.5066 or 780.492.8315.

Key Supervisory/Team Skills

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5310wi1	Principles of Supervision	MT	2 days	Jan. 10	$395
5310wi2	Principles of Supervision	RF	2 days	Jan. 13	$395
5311wi1	Interpersonal Communications	MT	2 days	Jan. 17	$395
5312wi1	Creating Effective Work Groups	MT	2 days	Jan. 24	$395
5313wi1	The Supervisor as a Trainer	RF	2 days	Feb. 3	$395
5314wi1	Interviewing Techniques for Supervisors	RF	2 days	Feb. 10	$395
5315wi1	Supervising in the Union Environment	RF	2 days	Feb. 17	$395
5316wi1	The Law and the Supervisor	RF	2 days	Feb. 24	$395
5310wi3	Principles of Supervision	MT	2 days	Feb. 28	$395
5311wi2	Interpersonal Communications	MT	2 days	Mar. 7	$395
5312wi2	Creating Effective Work Groups	MT	2 days	Mar. 14	$395
5313wi2	The Supervisor as a Trainer	MT	2 days	Mar. 21	$395
5314sp1	Interviewing Techniques for Supervisors	RF	2 days	Apr. 7	$395
5315sp1	Supervising in the Union Environment	RF	2 days	Apr. 14	$395
5316sp1	The Law and the Supervisor	MT	2 days	Apr. 18	$395
5317sp1	Supervisory Summation	RF	2 days	Apr. 28	$395
5317sp2	Supervisory Summation	MT	2 days	May 2	$395
5317sp3	Supervisory Summation	RF	2 days	May 5	$395

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Business Seminars and Short Courses

Management Seminars

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5421wi1	Take This Job And...Love It!	M	1 day	Jan. 10	$345*
5390wi1	The Art and Science of Investing	W	10 eve	Jan. 12	$325*
5419wi1	GMAT Test Preparation Course	S	4 days	Jan. 15	$815*
5369wi1	Managing Your Time	F	1 day	Jan. 21	$345*
5411wi1	Multi-generations at Work	F	1 day	Jan. 28	$345*
5418wi1	Win-Win Collaboration	MT	2 days	Jan. 31	$425*
5406wi1	Implementing Emotional Intelligence (EQ) at Work	M	1 day	Feb. 7	$345*
5412wi1	Finding Work-Life Balance	M	1 day	Feb. 14	$345*
5372wi1	Mental Toughness: Training for Success	F	1 day	Feb. 18	$395*
5423wi1	Understanding Financial Planning, Budgeting and Management	WR	2 days	Feb. 23	$425*
5419wi2	GMAT Test Preparation Course	W	9 Eve	Feb. 23	$815*
5356wi1	Conflict Management	W	1 day	Mar. 2	$345*
5410wi1	Coaching for Success	MT	2 days	Mar. 7	$425*
5422wi1	Assertive Communication	F	1 day	Mar. 11	$345*
5364wi1	Influencing Difficult People	F	1 day	Mar. 25	$345*
5377sp1	Successful People Management	MT	2 days	Apr. 4	$425*
5399sp1	First Things First™: Enhancing Personal and Professional Effectiveness	MT	2 days	Apr. 11	$925*
5398sp1	Strategic Leadership™: Leading for Results	WR	2 days	Apr. 13	$925*
5414sp1	The Excellent Assistant	RF	2 days	Apr. 28	$445*
5360sp1	Finance for Nonfinancial Managers	TW	2 days	May 10	$425*
5411sp1	Multi-generations at Work	F	1 day	May 13	$345*
5353sp1	Basic Accounting for Nonaccountants	MTW	3 days	May 16	$445*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Investments and Personal Finance

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
5390wi1	The Art and Science of Investing	W	10 eve	Jan. 20	$315*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

780.492.3027
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca
email: busprog@ualberta.ca

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

Thinking of in-house training? We can help you by exploring possibilities for training within your organization. **Call 780.492.8315.**

Professional Practice Studies

As a professional, you are always looking for ways to further your career and education by bridging your current learning into future opportunities.

In today's global work world, professionals at all levels are finding that continually enhancing knowledge and expertise is a powerful way to increase your competitive edge as well as contribute towards the positive enrichment of your corporation's culture and operations. The Faculty of Extension's new Professional Practice Studies allows you to specialize in areas of specific interest to enhance your skills and knowledge in a targeted subject area. Each specialization will provide approximately 50 hours of study and upon completion participants will receive recognition of their accomplishment.

Students may focus on the following specializations:

- Workplace Communication*
- Conflict Resolution*
- Financial Management*
- Management Bootcamp*
- Workplace Coaching*

* For the complete listing of program requirements please visit our website at: **www.extension.ualberta.ca/business**.

We are committed to help you achieve your personal and professional goals.

Occupational Health and Safety

Concern for the promotion of health and safety in the workplace is increasing among workers and employers across all industries. Consequently, the demand for occupational health and safety professionals is also increasing. This certificate program is designed to help practitioners from many different backgrounds develop the competencies needed to be effective in the development, implementation, and evaluation of occupational health and safety programs and systems in a wide variety of occupational settings.

The program consists of 6 core courses, 78 hours of core elective courses and 35 hours of elective enrichment seminars. The University of Alberta's Occupational Health and Safety Certificate Program is also offered at the following affiliate colleges: Keyano (Fort McMurray), Red Deer, Grande Prairie, and Medicine Hat.

Classes listed below will be held in Edmonton and Calgary.

Winter Courses - Edmonton

course #	CORE COURSES	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4620wi1	Introduction to Health and Safety Systems	MW	13 eve	Feb. 14	$545
4620wi2	Introduction to Health and Safety Systems	SD	3 wknds	Jan. 15	$545
4621wi1	Management of Health and Safety Systems	MW	13 eve	Jan. 10	$545
4621wi2	Management of Health and Safety Systems	TWRF	4 days	Mar. 8	$545
4622wi1	Fundamentals of Occupational Hygiene	T	13 eve	Jan. 11	$545
4622wi2	Fundamentals of Occupational Hygiene	MTWR	4 days	Feb. 14	$545
4623wi1	Applied Occupational Hygiene	SD	3 wknds	Jan. 8	$545
4623wi2	Applied Occupational Hygiene	MTWR	4 days	Mar. 21	$545
4624wi1	Health and Safety Legislation and Policy	WRF	3 days	Jan. 19	$545
4624wi2	Health and Safety Legislation and Policy	F	3 days	Feb. 18	$545
46241wi1	Health and Safety Legislation and Policy	ONLINE	8 eve	Jan. 5	$595
5587wi1	Organizational Behaviour	R	13 eve	Jan. 6	$545
5587wi2	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	2 wknds	Feb. 11	$545
5587wi3	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	2 wknds	Mar. 11	$545
	CORE ELECTIVE COURSES				
4575wi1	Fundamentals of Auditing	SD	2 wknds	Feb. 12	$545
4601wi1	Fundamentals of Disability Management	TWRF	4 days	Jan. 11	$545
4576wi1	Fundamentals of Ergonomics	TWRF	4 days	Jan. 18	$545
4625wi1	Risk Management and Communications	SD	2 wknds	Feb. 26	$545
	ELECTIVE SEMINARS				
4603wi1	Behavior-based Safety	RF	2 days	Mar. 3	$425
4568wi1	Emergency Management	SD	2 days	Mar. 5	$425
4572wi1	Fall Protection	S	1 day	Mar. 19	$325
4574wi1	Fire Safety Program	MT	2 days	Jan. 31	$425
4579wi1	Incident Investigation	MT	2 days	Feb. 7	$425
4594wi1	Shiftwork, Safety and Sanity	F	1 day	Jan. 28	$325

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Spring Courses - Edmonton

course #	CORE COURSES	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4620sp1	Introduction to Health and Safety Systems	MTWR	4 days	Apr. 4	$545
46201sp1	Introduction to Health and Safety Systems	ONLINE	8 eve	Apr. 5	$595
4621sp1	Management of Health and Safety Systems	SD	3 wknds	May 28	$545
4622sp1	Fundamentals of Occupational Hygiene	SD	3 wknds	May 7	$545
4623sp1	Applied Occupational Hygiene	TR	13 eve	Apr. 19	$545
4624sp1	Health and Safety Legislation and Policy	WRF	3 days	Jun. 8	$545
5587sp1	Organizational Behaviour	R	12 eve	Apr. 7	$545
5587sp2	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	2 wknds	May 6	$545
46401sp1	Organizational Behaviour	ONLINE	8 eve	Apr. 6	$595
	CORE ELECTIVE COURSES				
4575sp1	Fundamentals of Auditing	TWRF	4 days	May 17	$545
4631sp1	How to be an Effective Safety Trainer	TWRF	4 days	Apr. 26	$545
5576sp1	Interpersonal Communication in Business	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
5603sp1	Training and Development of the Workforce	T	12 eve	Apr. 12	$545
	ELECTIVE SEMINARS				
4560sp1	Conflict and Confrontation	RF	2 days	Jun. 2	$425
4562sp1	Coping with Stress	F	1 day	May 13	$325
4574sp1	Fire Safety Program	SD	2 days	May 7	$425
4579sp1	Incident Investigation	MT	2 days	Jun. 13	$425
4628sp1	Toxicology: Effects and Hazards	F	1 day	May 6	$325
	GENERAL INTEREST				
4563sp1	CRSP Exam Preparation	SD	2 day	Apr. 16	$949*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* plus GST

Winter Courses - Calgary

course #	CORE COURSES	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4620wi3	Introduction to Health and Safety Systems	SD	3 wknds	Feb. 12	$545
4621wi3	Management of Health and Safety Systems	TWRF	4 days	Mar. 22	$545
4622wi3	Fundamentals of Occupational Hygiene	TWRF	4 days	Jan. 11	$545
4623wi3	Applied Occupational Hygiene	SD	3 wknds	Jan. 22	$545
4624wi3	Health and Safety Legislation and Policy	WRF	3 days	Mar. 16	$545
4640wi3	Organizational Behaviour	FSDR	2 wknds	Feb. 25	$545
	CORE ELECTIVE COURSES				
4575wi3	Fundamentals of Auditing	TWRF	4 days	Jan. 11	$545
4631wi3	How to be an Effective Safety Trainer	MTWR	4 days	Feb. 7	$545
4625wi3	Risk Management and Communications	TWRF	4 days	Mar. 8	$545
4609wi3	Safety Hazard Recognition, Evaluation and Control	MTWR	4 days	Feb. 14	$545
	ELECTIVE SEMINARS				
4633wi3	Accident Causation Theory	M	1 day	Jan. 24	$325
4634wi1	Avoiding a Wrong with Two Rights: Human Rights vs. the Right to Safety	M	1 day	Feb. 28	$325
4562wi3	Coping with Stress	R	1 day	Mar. 10	$325
4578wi3	Health and Safety Committees	S	1 day	Mar. 19	$325
4579wi3	Incident Investigation	SD	2 days	Jan. 8	$425
4629wi3	Noise and Hearing Conservation	F	1 day	Jan. 7	$325
4612wi3	Safety Culture & Perception Surveys	M	1 day	Mar. 21	$325

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Spring Courses - Calgary

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4624sp3	Health and Safety Legislation and Policy	MTW	3 days	Jun. 27	$545
4609sp3	Safety Hazard Recognition, Evaluation & Control	SD	2 wknds	May 28	$545
4568sp3	Emergency Management	SD	2 days	Jun. 18	$425
4579sp3	Incident Investigation	RF	2 days	Apr. 28	$425
4584sp3	Managing Contractor Safety Performance	RF	2 days	Jun. 23	$425

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Information Session - Edmonton
To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2 and Wednesday, November 3.

Information Session – Calgary
To find out more, attend the Information Session on Occupational Health and Safety Certificate Program on Tuesday, November 2 between 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm in Room EC1065 at Mount Royal College, 4825 Mount Royal Gate SW.

780.492.3037
toll free: 1.800.808.4784
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/ohs
email: ohs@ualberta.ca

Environmental Resource Management

The Environmental Resource Management Certificate Program (ERM) is designed for:

- Individuals transitioning into the environmental field
- Mid-level experienced professionals who want to enhance and update their skills and knowledge
- Individuals who wish to achieve manager-level responsibilities in the field of environmental resource management
- Individuals who wish to broaden their environmental skills
- Individuals with experience in private organizations or public agencies dealing with natural resources or the environment.

The ERM certificate program provides training for professional development in private or public organizations. The aim is to increase familiarity and competence in understanding the dynamics of environmental resource management, the strategies and techniques of environmental planning and management, and the biological, physical, social, economic and institutional implications of resource decisions. Students also become familiar with various quantitative methods of analysis and aids to decision making. The ERM courses blend theory and practical exercises to help students develop the comprehensive set of skills and understanding the students' need to succeed. It offers a thorough background in air, water and soil processes, and environmental monitoring, biotechnology, instrumentation and experimental design.

Certified Canadian Environmental Practitioner

ERM Graduates are eligible to apply for the Canadian Certified Environmental Practitioner-in-Training designation, CEPIT, under CECAB's (The Canadian Environmental Certification Approvals Board) National Certification Program for Canadian Environmental Practitioners. The CEPIT certification is seen as a stepping stone to becoming a Canadian Certified Environmental Practitioner (CCEP). To apply for a CCEP, applicants must have a two or three year diploma or degree in addition to a minimum five years of Canadian environmental work experience.

For more information on CECAB, please go to www.cecab.org

Winter/Spring Course Schedule

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4307wi1	Introduction to Soils and Soil Resources	WS	8 eve/1day	Jan. 19	$565
4267wi1	Environmental Audits	RFS	3 days	Jan. 20	$565
4289wi1	Environmental Law: Process and Procedures	RFS	3 days	Feb. 10	$565
4268wi1	Environmental Impact Assessments	RFS	3 days	Feb. 24	$565
4288wi1	Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Management	TR	7 eve	Mar. 1	$565
4256wi1	Applied Hydrology	RF	4 days	Mar. 10	$565
4273wi1	Environmental Stewardship	RFS	3 days	Mar. 17	$565
4258wi1	Environmental Project Management	RFS	3 days	Mar. 24	$565
4286sp1	Remediation Technologies	RFS	3 days	Apr. 7	$565
4291sp1	Applied Hydrogeology in Alberta	RFS	3 days	Apr. 28	$565
4235sp1	Mold: Problems and Solutions for Construction Stakeholders	RFS	3 days	May 5	$495
4280sp1	Wetlands Ecology and Remediation	RFS	3 days	May 12	$565
4277sp1	Risk Communication	WRF	3 days	May 25	$565

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

NB: Courses are subject to change. Please visit our website at **www.extension.ualberta.ca/erm** for the most current information and to register online.

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.5532 or 780.492.3158
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/erm
email: erm@ualberta.ca

Construction Administration Certificate Program

How can you enter or advance in this exciting, high-growth field? This certificate provides the fundamental areas of construction administration. Develop and expand your managerial skills in courses developed and approved by U of A and accredited by ***Canadian Construction Association*** for *Gold Seal Accreditation.*

If you desire a career change in the construction field, this program will help you gain knowledge essential to success in the field. Or, if you work in the construction industry, design, project management, manufacturing and supply, development, or real estate, and are seeking the competitive edge to further your career, this certificate will greatly increase your competency, and ability to compete and advance. This program builds your understanding of the planning, technical, financial, and legal aspects of the construction business.

Winter/Spring Course Schedule

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4200wi1	Administrative Control Systems (Core)	RS	7 eve/3 days	Jan. 13	$545
4201wi1	Construction Costing (Core)	TS	7 eve/3 days	Jan. 18	$545
4238wi1	NEW Introduction to Building Information Modelling (BIM) (Elective)	F	1 day	Jan. 28	$395
4210wi1	Understanding Specifications in Construction (Elective)	RF	2 days	Feb. 10	$475
4203wi1	Contract Law and Construction Documents (Core)	T/R/S	7 eve/3 days	Mar. 8	$545
4207wi1	Project Management II: The Experience (Elective)	RFS	3 days	Mar. 10	$495
4768wi1	Sustainable Design—Environmental Impact of Design and Material Selection (Elective)	RF	2 days	Mar. 24	$475
4218sp1	Computer Assisted Project Planning (Elective)	RF	2 days	Apr. 7	$475
4205sp1	Comprehensive Seminar for Construction Administration (Core)**	MT	2 days	May 2	$475
4535sp1	Mold: Problems and Solutions for Construction Stakeholders (Elective)	RFS	3 days	May 5	$495
4204sp1	Fundamentals of Project Management (Core)	FSM	4 days/2 eve	May 13	$545
4584sp3	Managing Contractor Safety Performance (Elective) (Calgary)	RF	2 days	Jun 23	$425

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

** *Comprehensive Seminar for Construction Administration* must be taken as the final class in the program.

NB: Courses are subject to change. Please visit our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/cst for the most current information and to register online.

General Interest Courses

Construction Project Management Workshop Series

This workshop series is a must for anyone who wishes to develop project management skills and advance in their construction career. The courses will be of interest to engineers, architects, facilities managers, construction managers, contractors, inspectors, developers, operations managers, superintendents, estimators, controllers, designer/builders, PMO members and managers, or graduates who want to start a career or seek postgraduate education in project management. These courses are also for senior managers and executives who are considering enhancing their organizational project performance.

These courses are not part of the Construction Administration Certificate Program

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
4773wi1	Advanced Communication Skills	FS	2 days	Jan. 14	$799*
4774wi1	Construction Contract Management	FS	2 days	Feb. 4	$799*
4775wi1	Contract Law for Project Managers	FS	2 days	Mar. 4	$799*
4776sp1	Proactive Risk Management Tools & Techniques	FS	2 days	Apr. 1	$799*
4777sp1	Team Building and Leadership	FS	2 days	May 6	$799*
4778sp1	Project Delivery Systems	FS	2 days	Jun. 3	$799*
4779su1	Advanced Construction Contract Management	FS	2 days	July 8	$799*
4780su1	Construction Claims Prevention & Management	FS	2 days	Aug. 5	$799*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* plus GST

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.5532 or 780.492.3158
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/cst
email: cst@ualberta.ca

Fine Arts

"If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint' then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced." ~ Vincent Van Gogh

Art expresses who we are, where we are going, where we have been, and what we might be. It compels us to engage our minds, think in new ways, and to use our most precious gift, our imagination.

Develop your imagination and creative expression with a solid grounding in the fundamentals of art through our Fine Arts courses. Offering studio instruction with professional artists, critique and practice, these courses help you build a portfolio reflective of your artistic vision and mastery.

Courses in Fine Arts can be taken towards a Fine Arts Certificate, as outlined below, or for general interest. **For a complete brochure on our courses contact our program at 780.492.3034 or visit our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies**

Winter Term

course #		CORE CERTIFICATE COURSES	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3002wi1		Art History I	R	10 eve	Jan. 13	$385*
3005wi1		Drawing I **	W	10 aftn	Jan. 12	$385*
3005wi2		Drawing I **	R	10 eve	Jan. 13	$385*
3006wi1		Drawing II	M	10 eve	Jan. 10	$385*
3006wi2		Drawing II	W	10 aftn	Jan. 12	$385*
3010wil		Painting I	M	10 eve	Jan. 10	$385*
3011wi1		Painting II	F	10 eve	Jan. 14	$385*
3003wi1		Visual Design I	W	10 eve	Jan. 12	$385*
3310wi1		Drawing III	T	10 eve	Jan. 11	$385*
3526wi1		Watercolour II	T	10 eve	Jan. 11	$385*
3260wi1		Project Course				$385*
		ELECTIVE COURSES				
3538wi1		Abstract Painting II	T	5 eve	Jan. 11	$195*
3522wi1		Drawing with Mixed Media I	W	5 eve	Jan. 12	$195*
3539wi1		Drawing with Mixed Media II	W	5 eve	Feb. 23	$195*
3528wi1		Figure Drawing I	D	10 morn	Jan. 9	$385*
3223wi1		Pen, Ink & Watercolour	S	10 morn	Jan. 8	$385*
3015wi1		Portrait Painting	R	10 eve	Jan. 13	$385*
3524wi1		Soft Pastel Drawing II	M	10 eve	Jan. 10	$385*
3004wi1		Visual Art & Design II	R	10 eve	Jan. 13	$385*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Note: Most morning classes are held from 10 am–1 pm, most afternoon classes are held from 1–4 pm, most evening classes are held from 6:30–9:30 pm.

* Fine Arts courses require additional art supplies or materials.
** Drawing is one of the cornerstones of art training and is recommended to students with no previous art experience.

• Please visit our website for course prerequisites: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies/finearts.aspx

Spring Term

course #		CORE CERTIFICATE COURSES	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3005sp1		Drawing I **	T	10 eve	Apr. 12	$385*
3006sp1		Drawing II	M	10 eve	Apr. 11	$385*
3308sp1		Landscape and Interior Drawing	W	10 aftn	Apr. 13	$385*
3011sp1		Painting II	T	10 aftn	Apr. 12	$385*
3012sp1		Painting III	R	10 eve	Apr. 14	$385*
3527sp1		Watercolour III	S	10 morn	Apr. 9	$385*
3260sp1		Project Course				$385*
		ELECTIVE COURSES				
3530sp1		Drawing En Plein Air	F/S	1 eve/2 day	May 27	$235***
3542sp1	NEW!	Contemporary Thematic Development	S	5 morn	Apr. 9	$195*
3325sp1		Techniques of the Old Masters	M	10 eve	Apr. 11	$385*
3356sp1		Oriental Brushwork Workshop	S/D	4 days	May 7	$195*
3594sp1		Portfolio Development Workshop	W	5 eve	Apr. 13	$195*
3544sp1		Visual Art & Design III	R	10 eve	Apr. 14	$385*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Note: Most morning classes are held from 10 am–1 pm, most afternoon classes are held from 1–4 pm, most day classes are held 9 am–4 pm, and most evening classes are held from 6:30–9:30 pm.

* Fine Arts courses require additional art supplies or materials.
** Drawing is one of the cornerstones of art training and is recommended to students with no previous art experience.
*** Includes admission to Fort Edmonton Park and Elk Island National Park.

• Please visit our website for course prerequisites: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies/finearts.aspx

Fine Arts Certificate Courses

Our certificate program offers three streams to choose from – drawing, painting, and watercolour. Each stream is comprised of 8 core courses (240 hours) plus 60 hours of elective courses and workshops.

Fine Arts Certificate Program students must be 18 or older and hold a high school diploma or equivalent. To enrol in the Fine Arts Certificate Program, students must complete a program application form and provide a non-refundable application fee of $75. Call 780.492.3093 to request a form.

*You **do not** need to be a certificate student to register in Extension Fine Arts courses.*

Scholarships Available

The Fine Arts program has a number of scholarships available for certificate students upon application and recommendation of instructors.

ArtsMASH

Thursday, December 9, 6:30–9:30 pm
Guest Lecture: 7:30 pm
Fine Arts Studios, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue

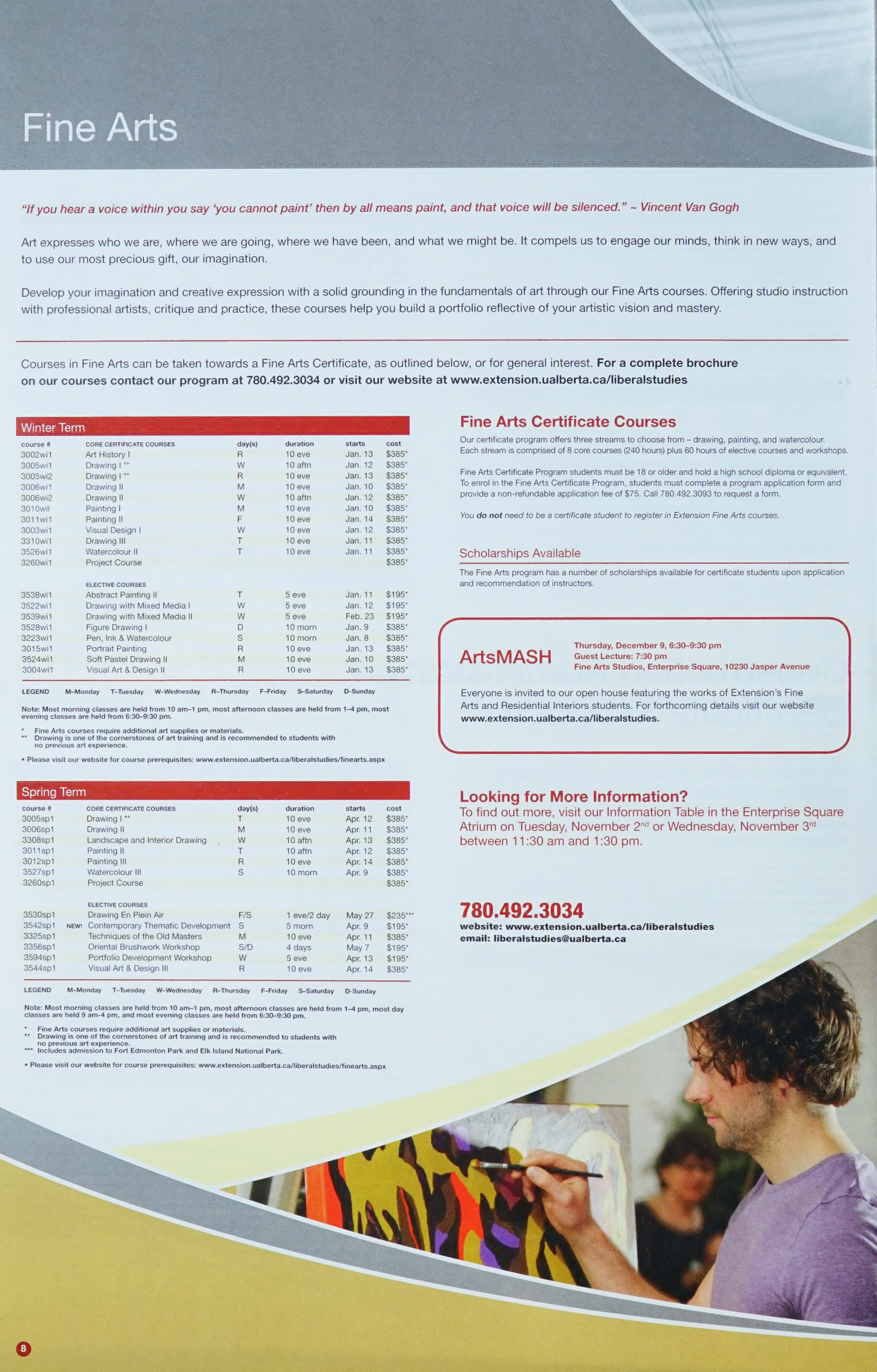
Everyone is invited to our open house featuring the works of Extension's Fine Arts and Residential Interiors students. For forthcoming details visit our website **www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies.**

Looking for More Information?

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.3034

website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca



Residential Interiors

"A home cannot be truly beautiful unless it functions in harmony with who we are." ~ Clodagh

Do you have a passion and penchant for interior design? Do you notice special details: the way light falls through a window, how a doorway frames a view, why a certain shade or texture doesn't fit the feel of a room? Decorating a home is a form of creative expression, as are the visual arts of drawing and painting. If you like to make your living environment reflect who you are, if you have always had a flair for making a house a home, if friends ask for your advice or help when they contemplate a renovation, consider pursuing studies in residential interiors that can lead to a certificate.

Residential Interiors Certificate*

Requirement to complete: 351 credit hours (6 core and 3 elective courses)

Learn to deal successfully with the changes and challenges of residential interior decorating.

This certificate, unique in Western Canada, is recognized as an excellent university-level program incorporating the principles of fine arts, architecture, and business. Offering a balanced combination of theory, practice through applied exercises, and industry-specific instruction, this program will enhance your current practice or help you pursue a new career in residential interior decorating.

*While auditing for general interest is permitted, preference for admission will be granted to students enrolled in the Residential Interiors Certificate Program.

Please visit our website for course prerequisites:
www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies/residential_courses.aspx

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.3093
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

Winter Term

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
	CORE CERTIFICATE COURSES				
4676wi1	Introduction to Residential Interiors	M/S	11 eve/1 day	Jan. 10	$535*
4676wi2	Introduction to Residential Interiors	T/M	12 morn/1 eve	Jan. 11	$535*
4677wi1	Basic Drawing, Drafting and Presentation	R/S	12 eve/1 morn	Jan. 13	$535*
4678wi1	Colour Theory and Application	W/S	12 eve/1 morn	Jan. 12	$535*
4680wi1	Products and Finishes	W/S	13 morn	Jan. 12	$535*
4679wi1	Space Planning	M/D	11 eve/1 day	Jan. 10	$535*
4681wi1	Business Practice	T/S	12 eve/1 morn	Jan. 11	$535*
	ELECTIVE COURSES				
3510wi1	Computer-Assisted Design (CAD)	M/S	11 eve/1 day	Jan. 10	$535*
4699wi1	Computer-Assisted Design II (CAD)	R/S	12 eve/1 morn	Jan. 13	$535*
4697wi1	Lighting	R/S	12 eve/1 morn	Jan. 13	$535*
4698wi1	Design History: Art, Architecture, & Design of the Avant-Garde	W/R	13 aftn	Jan. 12	$535*
3499wi1	Universal Design	T/S	12 eve/1 morn	Jan. 11	$535*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* plus text and/or supplies

Note: Most morning classes are held from 9 am–noon, most afternoon classes are held from 2–5 pm, most day classes are held 9 am–4 pm, and most evening classes are held from 6:30–9:30 pm.

Spring Term

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
	CORE CERTIFICATE COURSES				
4676sp1	Introduction to Residential Interiors	T/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 12	$535*
4677sp1	Basic Drawing, Drafting and Presentation	R/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 14	$535*
4678sp1	Colour Theory and Application	W/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 13	$535*
4680sp1	Products and Finishes	W/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 13	$535*
4679sp1	Space Planning	T/S	12 aftn/1 morn	Apr. 12	$535*
	ELECTIVE COURSES				
4683sp1	Building Construction	T/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 12	$535*
3510sp1	Computer-Assisted Design (CAD)	R/S	12 eve/1 morn	Apr. 14	$535*
4697sp1	Lighting	M/S	10 aftn/1 day/1 morn	Apr. 11	$535*
4685sp1	Design Studio	D/S	11 aftn/1 day	Apr. 10	$535*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* plus text and/or supplies

Note: Most morning classes are held from 9 am–noon, most afternoon classes are held from 1–4 pm, most day classes are held 9 am–4 pm, and most evening classes are held from 6:30–9:30 pm.

Music, Arts and Humanities

"Through the arts, people learn creativity and innovation." ~ Raymond Nasher

Explore the arts and humanities to develop both your critical and creative faculties and reach a greater understanding of the world around you.

Course Schedule

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
	Opera 101: A Guide to the Opera	W	2 eve	Jan. 26[1]	no charge[1]
3571wi1	Gnoticism and the Occult	W	6 eve	Feb. 2	$175*
3811wi1 NEW	The Healing Power of Sound	R	6 eve	Feb. 3	$175*
3812wi1 NEW	Ecological Living	T	6 eve	Feb. 8	$175*
	Ballet 101: A Closer Look at the Creative Process	R/W	2 eve	Mar. 31[2]	No charge[2]
3813sp1 NEW	Women in the Classical World	M	6 eve	Apr. 4	$175*
3810sp1 NEW	Edmonton: Culture, History, and Place	R	6 eve	Apr. 7	$175*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* plus GST

1 Community Programming: Offered in collaboration with Edmonton Opera. RSVP by calling 780.429.1000. Date of 2nd evening is Apr. 13.
2 Community Programming: Offered in collaboration with Alberta Ballet. Register by phoning 780.702.1225. Date of the 2nd evening is May 11.

Note: Most Evening classes are held from 6–8:30 pm.

NEW Dine & Discover

Join us this winter in Enterprise Square as we examine today's hot topics over dinner and a glass of wine. Each evening will feature two guest speakers presenting different perspectives of a contemporary issue followed by a question period and discussion.

Visit **dineanddiscover.ca** for dates and further details.

780.492.3093
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

Writing and Editing

"The secret of becoming a writer is to write, write and keep on writing." ~ Ken MacLeod

Explore the clear expression of ideas, create characters that amuse, write poetry that has meaning to others, or move from pen to print or the Internet. Guided by professional writers, many of whom have won awards, our writing courses will help you transform your thoughts into effective and inspired writing.

We offer academic, professional, and personal development courses in Writing and Editing.

Grammar and Style

course #			day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3796wi1	NEW	Introduction to the Process of Writing	M	5 eve	Jan. 17	$255*
3797wi1	NEW	Grammar for Elegant Writing	W	8 eve	Feb. 2	$285*
3112wi1		Writing Skills: Improving Style and Clarity	R	8 eve	Feb. 3	$285*
3404sp1		Writing and Grammar Skills: Advanced	W	8 eve	Apr. 6	$285*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Editing

course #			day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3329wi1		Essential Editing	S	3 days	Jan. 15	$285*
3798wi1	NEW	Substantive and Structural Editing	S	2 days	Feb. 5	$255*
3133sp1		A Practical Guide to Proofreading	S	2 days	Apr. 2	$225*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Professional Writing and Communications

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3405wi1	Technical Writing: Procedures and Manuals	T	4 eve	Feb. 1	$285*
3977wi1	Writing for Magazines	W	8 eve	Feb. 2	$285*
3359wi1	Writing for the Web	T	1 day	Feb. 8	$185*
3793wi1	Writing in the Workplace	M/T	2 days	Feb. 14	$395*
3794wi1	Writing About Science	T	8 eve	Feb. 15	$285*
3976wi1	Web 2.0: The Social Web – What is it And Why It Matters (To You)	S	1 day	Mar. 12	$185*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

Creative Writing

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3113wi1	Introduction to Creative Writing	R	8 eve	Jan. 27	$285*
3144wi1	Write That Book and Get it Published!	S	1 day	Jan. 29	$155*
3787wi1	Unlocking the Muse: Meditation and Creativity	F/SD	1 eve/2 days	Feb. 25	$245*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

On-Line Creative Writing Course

course #			day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3795sp1	NEW	Introduction to New Media Narratives (On-line delivery)**		8 weeks	Apr. 18	$285*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

* Plus GST

** This course will be offered online through a Web-based conferencing system. You must have an email account and Internet access to enroll; Netscape Communicator 7.1 or Internet Explorer 6.x (or higher) (recommended for Windows computers); Netscape Communicator 7. 1 and Internet Explorer 5.x (recommended for Macintosh computers); and 28.8 kbps modem (or higher).

Women's Writing

	duration	starts
18th Annual Women's Words: Summer Writing Week **www.extension.ualberta.ca/womenswords**	1 week + weekends	June 3– 12, 2011

780.492.3093
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

NEW Media Narratives: Writing and Publishing in a Developing Field (COMM 597)

An Online Graduate Course — Winter 2011

Offered by the Communications and Technology Graduate Program, Faculty of Extension, U of A

For details phone 780.492.1501
email: Eileen.crookes@ualberta.ca

www.mact.ca

Languages

"A different language is a different vision of life." ~ Federico Fellini

Access an expanding global market, visit foreign countries, and connect with more people—all through developing skills in a second language. Learning a language is more than making unusual sounds and learning a new alphabet. It's about communicating and understanding. It is a cultural experience. As you develop your vocabulary and perfect your pronunciation of a new language, you will find delight in the cadence, idioms and forms of expression. And through the words and sentences that you learn, you will gain insight into how others around the globe view their world. Whether your career would benefit from a new language, you are fascinated by other countries and cultures, or you have a yen for travel, our language classes open up a world of possibilities.

Chinese (Mandarin)

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3155wi1	Chinese I (Mandarin)	W	12 eve	Jan. 12	$345*
3488sp1	Chinese II (Mandarin)	W	12 eve	Apr. 13	$345*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

* Plus GST

French

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3114wi1	French I	M	12 eve	Jan. 10	$345
3114wi2	French I	W	12 eve	Jan. 12	$345
3114sp1	French I	M/W	12 eve	May 2	$345
3109wi1	French II	W	12 eve	Jan. 12	$345
3109sp1	French II	M/W	12 eve	May 2	$345
3139wi1	French III	R	12 eve	Jan. 13	$345
3247wi1	French IV	W	12 eve	Jan. 12	$345
3258sp1	French V	M/W	12 eve	May 2	$345

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

German

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3397wi1	German I	R	12 eve	Jan. 13	$345*
3397sp1	German I	T	10 eve	Apr. 12	$345*
3398wi1	German II	T	12 eve	Jan. 11	$345*
3398sp1	German II	R	10 eve	Apr. 14	$345*
3399wi1	German III	W	12 eve	Jan. 12	$345*
3400sp1	German IV	W	10 eve	Apr. 13	$345*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

* Plus GST

Italian

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3116wi1	Italian I	W	12 eve	Jan. 12	$345*
3117wi1	Italian II	M	12 eve	Jan. 10	$345*
3196sp1	Italian III	M	10 eve	Apr. 11	$345*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

* Plus GST

Japanese

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3143wi1	Japanese II	W	12 eve	Jan. 12	$345*
3414sp1	Japanese III	W	10 eve	Apr. 20	$345*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

* Plus GST

Spanish

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
3119wi1	Spanish Module 1	M	7 eve	Jan. 10	$275
3119wi2	Spanish Module 1	R	7 eve	Jan. 13	$275
3119wi3	Spanish Module 1	W	7 eve	Feb. 23	$275
3119sp1	Spanish Module 1	R	7 eve	May 5	$275
3125wi1	Spanish Module 2	T	7 eve	Jan. 11	$275
3125wi2	Spanish Module 2	T/R	16 aftn	Jan. 18	$275
3125wi3	Spanish Module 2	M	7 eve	Mar. 7	$275
3125wi4	Spanish Module 2	R	7 eve	Mar. 3	$275
3125sp1	Spanish Module 2	W	7 eve	May 4	$275
3377wi1	Spanish Module 3	W	12 eve	Jan. 12	$345
3377sp1	Spanish Module 3	T/R	12 eve	May 10	$345
3132sp1	Spanish Module 4	M/W	12 eve	Apr. 11	$345
3200wi1	Spanish Seminar 1	T	13 eve	Feb.15	$475
3259sp1	Spanish Seminar 2	T/R	13 eve	May 19	$475

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D-Sunday

Spanish Language Certificate

Planning to travel in a Spanish-speaking country? Doing business in Latin America? Or are you simply interested in learning about a new culture and language? The courses in our Spanish Language Certificate offer the opportunity to learn the language in intimate classes formatted into short modules that let you begin at whatever level suits your skills.

Find out more about our Spanish Language Certificate at our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.3034
website: www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies
email: liberalstudies@ualberta.ca

English Language Program

Discover a whole new world by studying English at the University of Alberta. Our English Language Program provides a chance to explore interesting ideas, discover another culture and develop new communications skills that will take you around the world. We offer everything from English basics to pronunciation enhancement to university level English in day and evening classes. Small class size means you get lots of opportunity to concentrate on the skills you need and practise along with students from around the world. We also support you with highly qualified instructors and a new state-of-the-art Multimedia Language Learning Centre with Internet access and interactive computer software.

Our Program

Established in 1973, the English Language Program (ELP) enjoys an international reputation for providing a high standard of instruction in English to students from around the world. This standard of excellence is maintained by specialized teaching staff who employ modern teaching approaches and materials. Students use a computerized, state-of-the-art, multi-media language centre. In addition to regular offerings, the ELP will organize short-term courses designed to meet the specific needs of groups from the local or international community.

Before enrolling, prospective students must take the ELP Placement Test to determine their level of English competence. To be accepted into the program, students must be literate in their first language and obtain a minimum score on the Placement Test.

Placement Test

	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
Placement Test—January Session	R	1 morn	Jan. 6	$80
Placement Test—March Session	R	1 morn	Mar. 3	$80
Placement Test—May Session	T	1 morn	May 3	$80

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Intensive Day Program

In the IDP, students learn the communication skills needed to function, efficiently and effectively in professional and social settings. The four skills – listening, speaking, reading, and writing – are balanced through our language instruction in a friendly and positive English-speaking environment. New students write a placement test prior to registration, then build their confidence in using English through constant feedback and encouragement from our instructors. In our classes, audio-visual materials and interactive language software are used extensively in addition to textbooks.

Intensive Day Program

	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
Intensive Day Program (ESL 100-ESL 135, Business English)				
January Session	M-F	morn or aftn	Jan. 10	$1,750*
March Session	M-F	morn or aftn	Mar. 7	$1,750*
May Session	M-F	morn or aftn	May 6	$1,750*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Note*: Each Intensive Day session lasts 7 weeks. The cost includes tuition, mandatory health insurance, health services and student services fees. ESL 140 through 145 are English for Academic Purposes (EAP) courses. These courses are meant especially for students who wish to enter academic degree programs at an English-speaking university or college.

English for Academic Purposes

ESL 140 and ESL 145 are a two-part series of English for Academic Purposes (EAP) courses that help advanced ESL students improve their academic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students who successfully complete these courses will be able to synthesize information from a variety of academic sources, analyze materials, and present their ideas in accordance with first-year university standards. ESL 140 and ESL 145 are one option that students may take to meet the English Language Proficiency requirement for undergraduate admission of the University of Alberta.

English for Academic Purposes (EAP)

	day(s)	duration	starts	cost
(ESL 140-ESL 145)				
January Session	M-R	morn or aftn	Jan. 12	$1,750*
March Session	M-R	morn or aftn	Mar. 10	$1,750*
May Session	M-R	morn or aftn	May 12	$1,750*

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

iBT (TOEFL®)

		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
07097wi1	iBT for University Admission	M-F	30 aftn	Jan. 17	$1450
07097sp1	iBT for University Admission	M-F	30 aftn	Mar. 14	$1450

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

Evening Courses

course #		day(s)	duration	starts	cost
07120wi1	English for Everyday Situations	M/W	13 eve	Jan. 12	$300
07120wi2	English for Everyday Situations	M/W	13 eve	Mar. 14	$300
07120sp1	English for Everyday Situations	M/W	13 eve	May 16	$300
07121wi1	Conversations in English	M/W	13 eve	Jan. 12	$300
07121wi2	Conversations in English	M/W	13 eve	Mar. 14	$300
07121sp1	Conversations in English	M/W	13 eve	May 16	$300
07122wi1	English for Academic Environments	M/W	13 eve	Jan. 12	$300
07122wi2	English for Academic Environments	M/W	13 eve	Mar. 14	$300
07122sp1	English for Academic Environments	M/W	13 eve	May 16	$300
07123wi1	Presentations for Academics & Professionals	M/W	13 eve	Jan. 12	$300
07123wi2	Presentations for Academics & Professionals	M/W	13 eve	Mar. 14	$300
07123sp1	Presentations for Academics & Professionals	M/W	13 eve	May 16	$300
07124wi1	Pronunciation: From Sounds to Phrases	T/R	13 eve	Jan. 13	$300
07124wi2	Pronunciation: From Sounds to Phrases	T/R	13 eve	Mar. 15	$300
07124sp1	Pronunciation: From Sounds to Phrases	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300
07125wi1	Pronunciation: From Phrases & Beyond	T/R	13 eve	Jan. 13	$300
07125wi2	Pronunciation: From Phrases & Beyond	T/R	13 eve	Mar. 15	$300
07125sp1	Pronunciation: From Phrases & Beyond	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300
07126wi1	Writing Basics	T/R	13 eve	Jan. 13	$300
07126wi2	Writing Basics	T/R	13 eve	Mar. 15	$300
07126sp1	Writing Basics	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300
07127wi1	Writing Beyond the Basics	T/R	13 eve	Jan. 13	$300
07127wi1	Writing Beyond the Basics	T/R	13 eve	Mar. 15	$300
07127wi2	Writing Beyond the Basics	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300
07075wi1	Writing for Academic Purposes	T/R	13 eve	Jan. 13	$300
07075wi2	Writing for Academic Purposes	T/R	13 eve	Mar. 15	$300
07075sp1	Writing for Academic Purposes	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300
07088wi1	Thesis Writing for International Students	T/R	13 eve	Jan. 13	$300
07088 wi2	Thesis Writing for International Students	T/R	13 eve	Mar. 15	$300
07088sp1	Thesis Writing for International Students	T/R	13 eve	May 17	$300

LEGEND M–Monday T–Tuesday W–Wednesday R–Thursday F–Friday S–Saturday D–Sunday

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.3036 or 780.492.5530
website: www.elp.alberta.ca
email: elpinfo@ualberta.ca

Communications and Technology

"In this electric age we see ourselves being translated more and more into the form of information, moving toward the technological extension of consciousness," wrote Marshall McLuhan in 1964, in an insightful comment that has taken on new meaning in the age of the Internet. We can ask the same questions about the art and symbols of the ice age that we do about the electronic networks of today's organizations. How does a medium of communication come into being? What influences do new communications technologies have on people's everyday lives? And how do individuals and groups act to change communications practices?

The Communications and Technology Graduate Program at the University of Alberta offers a theoretical, historical and practical examination of the technology-enabled, knowledge-intensive workplace. The Master of Arts in Communications and Technology (MACT) degree is designed for students who seek to provide reflective and informed leadership in the management and use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) in their organizations and fields. These fields include education and training, information technology, public affairs, mass media, marketing, new media production, program design and development, and writing and publishing.

Students from outside of the Alberta capital region, including international students, may register in the program without changing their place of residence. The MACT is a course-based graduate program that requires the completion of 7 core courses, 3 electives, and a final applied research project. Four of the core courses must be completed during the two Spring Institutes held at the University of Alberta each May, with the remaining 3 core courses to be completed online. The core courses are scheduled to permit completion of the degree within two academic years. Students may complete approved electives offered by the University of Alberta or at another recognized university.

Admission requirements are as follows: a four-year degree from a recognized university; a GPA of at least 3.0 (or equivalent); at least three years of relevant professional experience; three application-specific letters of support; and a letter of interest that specifies the applicant's academic or professional area of interest, states how admission to the program would support the applicant's professional practice, and provisionally describes the topic for the final applied research project. Up to 25 students are admitted each year to begin their studies in May.

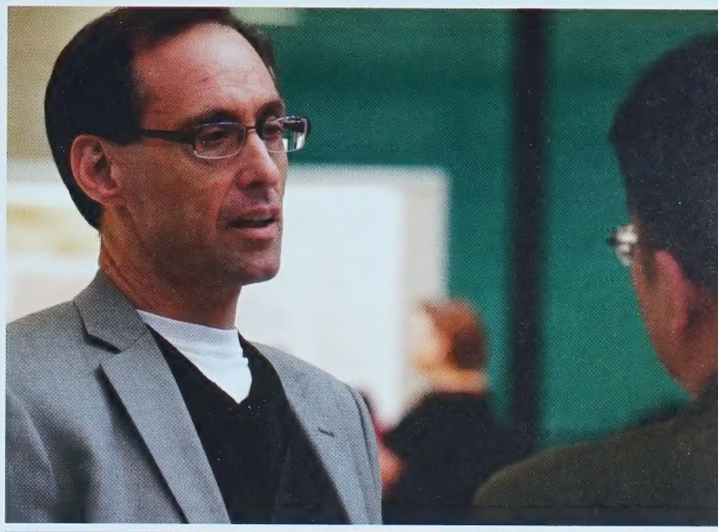
The application deadline for admission to begin studies in May 2011 is December 15, 2010.

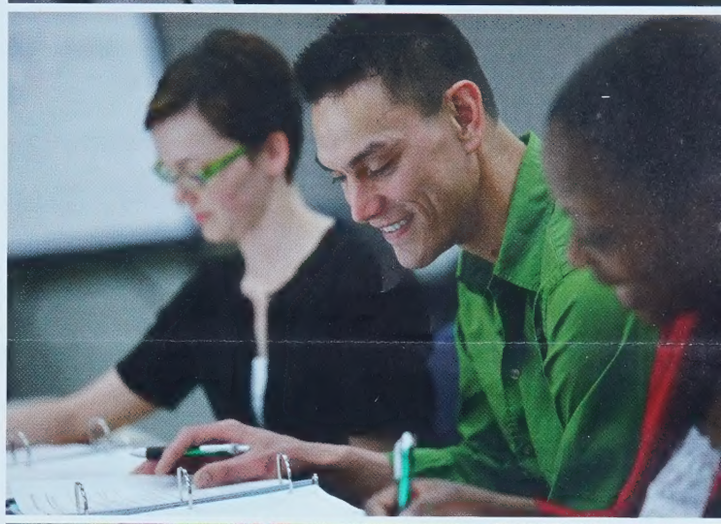
The Communications and Technology Graduate Program at the University of Alberta also welcomes inquiries about graduate studies at the doctoral and postdoctoral levels. In conjunction with other University of Alberta departments that house PhD programs, we offer opportunities for individual interdisciplinary PhDs. Postdoctoral appointments are for two years and are primarily supported by one of Canada's national research funding agencies. Interdisciplinary PhD and postdoctoral fellowships related to the following professional areas are particularly encouraged: Communication Policy, Intercultural Communication, Organizational Communication, and Health Communication.

To inquire about doctoral and postdoctoral opportunities in communications and technology at the University of Alberta, contact Dr. Marco Adria, Associate Professor and Director, Graduate Program in Communications and Technology, University of Alberta, **marco.adria@ualberta.ca**, (780) 492-2254.

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

780.492.1538
website: www.mact.ca
email: mact@ualberta.ca





Government Studies

National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration (NACLAA)
Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP)
Applied Land Use Planning (ALUP)

Promoting good government through public policy and public administration continuing education.

National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration (NACLAA – Level I)

[Local Government Certificate Program (LGCP)]

& National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration (NACLAA – Level II)

The NACLAA Program integrates theory and practice to foster understanding of local government administration. Courses are delivered online and there is extensive use of discussion and debate. Upon completion of NACLAA – Level I, students can advance their studies further in NACLAA – Level II.

Each course has a secured access website including several forums for student interaction within the online eClass system. Throughout the term, you can discuss issues and network with your fellow students and the instructor(s) from across Canada. You will have the opportunity to share experiences and ideas with your classmates and build on them to enrich your own learning. For more information contact our program office.

Winter Offerings

NACLAA - Level I

The following courses are offered online in January:

- Local Government Finance
- Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP) Foundations
- Organizational Behavior and Leadership
- Property Taxation and Assessment
- Public Administration Professionalism
- Sustainable Communities

NACLAA - Level II

The following courses are offered online in January:

- Public Administration Professionalism (*if not taken in level 1)
- Municipal Law II

Spring Offerings

NACLAA - Level I

The following courses are offered in April and are condensed to 10 weeks:

- Financial Management
- Human Resource Management
- Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP) Foundations

NACLAA - Level II

The following courses are offered in April and are condensed to 10 weeks:

- Policy Planning and Program Evaluation

780.492.6914 or 780.492.2870
Email: lgpnacla@ualberta.ca

To find out more, visit our Information Table in the Enterprise Square Atrium on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

Please check our website for the most update courses:
http://www.extension.ualberta.ca/govstudies

toll free: 1.877.686.4625
fax 780.492.0627
website: http://www.extension.ualberta.ca/govstudies
general email: govstudy@ualberta.ca

Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP) Certificate Program

The IAPP Certificate Program courses focus on fundamental theories related to the ideas, structures, and processes that define appropriate administration of access and privacy legislation at a municipal, provincial, and federal level in Canada. The program aims to develop and enhance managerial leadership capabilities in the access and privacy field, improve administration of the legislation, and promote enlightened democratic government. Courses are delivered online and there is extensive use of discussion and debate.

Winter Offerings

The following courses are offered online in September:

- Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP) Foundations
- Information Access in a Liberal Democracy
- Information Access Applications: Issues and Practices
- Privacy Applications: Issues and Practices

Spring Offerings

The following courses begin in April and are condensed to 10 weeks:

- Information Access and Protection of Privacy (IAPP) Foundations
- Privacy in a Liberal Democracy
- Information Access in a Liberal Democracy
- Health Information Access and Privacy

780.492.5052 or 780.492.2862
Email: iappuofa@ualberta.ca

Applied Land Use Planning (ALUP) Certificate Program

The ALUP Certificate Program seeks to demonstrate that collaboration, interdependence and teamwork are the essence of effective planning. Our students are involved in various professional roles within municipal government, from development officers, planning technicians and assistants to managers and administrators in smaller municipalities. As such our program is designed to match the complexity of a variety of municipal government planning needs; effective planning necessitates the cooperation of various agents at all levels of the community.

Winter Offerings

The following courses begin in January:

- Contemporary Planning Issues — in person
- Environmental Impact Assessments - in person
- Introduction to Municipal Economic Development – in person
- Local Government Finance – online
- Municipal Planning II NEW – online
- Planning Law – in person
- Sustainable Communities – online

Spring Offerings

The following courses begin in April and are condensed to 10 weeks:

- Environmental Review of Subdivision Applications – in person
- Land Use and Subdivision Design – in person
- Planning Administration – online
- Urban Environments – in person

780.248.1533
Email: alup@ualberta.ca

Extension Showcase
Meet you in the Atrium!

Tuesday & Wednesday, November 2 & 3, 2010
11:30 am – 1:30 pm

To find out what part-time study at U of A Extension can do for you, drop by the Atrium at Enterprise Square on Tuesday, November 2 or Wednesday, November 3 for our lunch hour showcase.

Displays will highlight each of our programs and you can mix and mingle with our program staff and instructors to find out more about:

- Adult & Continuing Education (CACE)
- Business Programs
- Business Analysis Professional Citation
- Construction Administration
- Environmental Resource Management
- Fine Arts
- Government Studies
- MA Communications & Technology
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Residential Interiors
- Spanish Language

Inspired by learning and discovery

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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www.ttc.ualberta.ca | 780.492.1397

winter spring 11

OFFICE HOURS

Fall/Winter
(September 1 to April 30):
Monday to Thursday, 8:30 am-8:00 pm
Friday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Saturday, 8:30 am-noon

Summer
(June 1 to August 31):
Monday to Friday, 8:00 am-6:00 pm

The Registration Office will be closed:
Thanksgiving – Monday, October 11, 2010
Remembrance Day – Thursday, November 11, 2010
University Closed – Friday, November 12, 2010
University Closed – Friday, December 24, 2010
Winter Closure – Saturday, December 25, 2010
to Tuesday, January 4th, 2011

For your convenience, you may register using your VISA, MasterCard, personal or company cheque, a money order or bank draft, debit card, cash or company invoice.

When payment is by a corporate pay type (credit card, invoice, or cheque), and the corporation is a GST Exempt Entity, a letter confirming the GST Exemption number must accompany the registration.

Inspired by learning and discovery

COURSE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

5 Easy Ways to Register for a Course

Submit a completed Course Registration form indicating your course selection.
You can register by phone using MasterCard or VISA during the office hours listed above.
Call us at 780.492.3109 or 780.492.3116.

Online:
Visit our website at **www.extension.ualberta.ca**

By Phone or Fax:
Phone: 780.492.3116
Fax: 780.492.0627

By Mail or in Person:
By Mail: Registration Office, Faculty of Extension, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 4P6

In Person: Drop your registration form and fee payment off at our Registration Office, located on the main floor at Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue.

Payment Options:
- Visa, Mastercard
- **Cheque, Bank Draft or Money Order:** made payable to the University of Alberta. (Please remit separate payment for each course)
- **Interac:** if registering in person
- Companies who wish to be invoiced must supply:
  - A Letter of Authorization on company letterhead or Purchase Order
  - Student's Name
  - Course name, number and section
  - Course cost (including GST if the course is taxable. Course cost cannot be split between invoice and another payment type)
  - Signed/approved by someone with signing authority (not the student's signature)
  - A GST reference number if the entity is tax exempt (i.e. Provincial Government)

After you have Registered

Confirmation Notice
Within 10 days you will receive confirmation of your course location, dates and times. If you haven't received confirmation within two weeks of registering, please call our information desk at 780.492.3116.

Education Credit/Tuition Tax Receipt (form T2202A)
Education and tuition tax credit receipts (form T2202A) are generated for students registered in courses that provide credit towards a citation, certificate, diploma or degree. For further information on the Income Tax Act and the tuition and education tax credit interpretation sections, please refer to our website on the topic: **www.extension.ualberta.ca/taxcredit**

Withdrawals and Refunds
If you choose to withdraw from a course, let us know in writing before
- the third class of a regular course term
- the commencement of a short program, seminar or workshop
- the submission date of the first assignment of a correspondence course

An administrative fee will be withheld for all withdrawals.

In some cases, the withdrawal policy may differ from the above. Check the refund/withdrawal policy on your course confirmation notice or check with the appropriate program office if you have any questions regarding a course refund.

Transfers
Should you wish to transfer from one Extension course or class section to another, a transfer fee may apply.

Course Cancellations
When course enrollments are not sufficient, Extension may cancel the course. In such a case, we will contact you as soon as possible before the course start date and refund in full any fees paid.

www.extension.ualberta.ca/register

www.extension.ualberta.ca/register

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Faculty of Extension

Faculty of Extension
Enterprise Square
10230 Jasper Avenue NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4P6

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
Faculty of Extension

REGISTRATION FORM

TEL: 780.492.3109 • 780.492.3116
FAX: 780.492.0627

WS 11 GUIDE

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY | PROGRAM | GENERAL INTEREST ☐Y ☐N

LAST (FAMILY) NAME | FIRST | MIDDLE

APT# | ADDRESS • PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS? ☐ YES ☐ NO

CITY | PROVINCE/STATE | POSTAL / ZIP CODE

TEL (HOME) | EMAIL

BUSINESS NAME | TITLE/POSITION

ADDRESS • PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS? ☐ YES ☐ NO

CITY | PROVINCE/STATE | POSTAL / ZIP CODE

TEL (WORK) | FAX (WORK)

COURSE#	COURSE NAME	FEE	GST*	TOTAL

* Many of our courses are exempt from GST. *Please include GST only if it is indicated in the fee for that course.*
** **GST Exempt Entities:** When payment is by a corporate pay type (credit card, invoice, or cheque), and the corporation is a GST Exempt Entity, a letter confirming the GST Exemption number must accompany the registration.

CHECK METHOD OF PAYMENT:
☐ CASH ☐ CHEQUE
☐ DEBIT ☐ INVOICE
☐ INDENT ☐ MONEY ORDER
☐ CREDIT CARD ☐ HRDF

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
AUTHORIZATION #:
ASSESSED BY:

PO _____
LOA _____

* If employer is to be invoiced, please include a letter of authorization or an authorized purchase order.

EXPIRY DATE: _____
NAME ON CARD: _____
☐ Provincial Government ☐ Business ☐ Personal

SIGNATURE: _____ Birth Date ____/____/____ yyyy / mm / dd
☐ Male ☐ Female

DATE (DD/MM/YY): _____ REGISTRATION METHOD: ☐ Tel ☐ Fax ☐ Mail ☐ Person

How did you hear about this course?
☐ Brochure ☐ Faculty Course Guide ☐ Website ☐ Email
☐ Newspaper ☐ In Class ☐ Word of Mouth ☐ Other

Are you a U of A Alumnus? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you are paying by cheque or money order, we would appreciate separate payment for each course. Make cheques payable to University of Alberta.

Privacy Statement
The personal information requested on this form is collected under the authority of section 33 (c) of the *Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the purpose of registering students, contacting former students and tracking enrolment statistics. Questions concerning the collection, use or disposal of this information should be directed to: FOIP Officer, Faculty of Extension, Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T6G 2T4. Phone (780) 492-5047.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA **CAPS:** Your U of A Career Centre

Fall 2010

CAREER connections

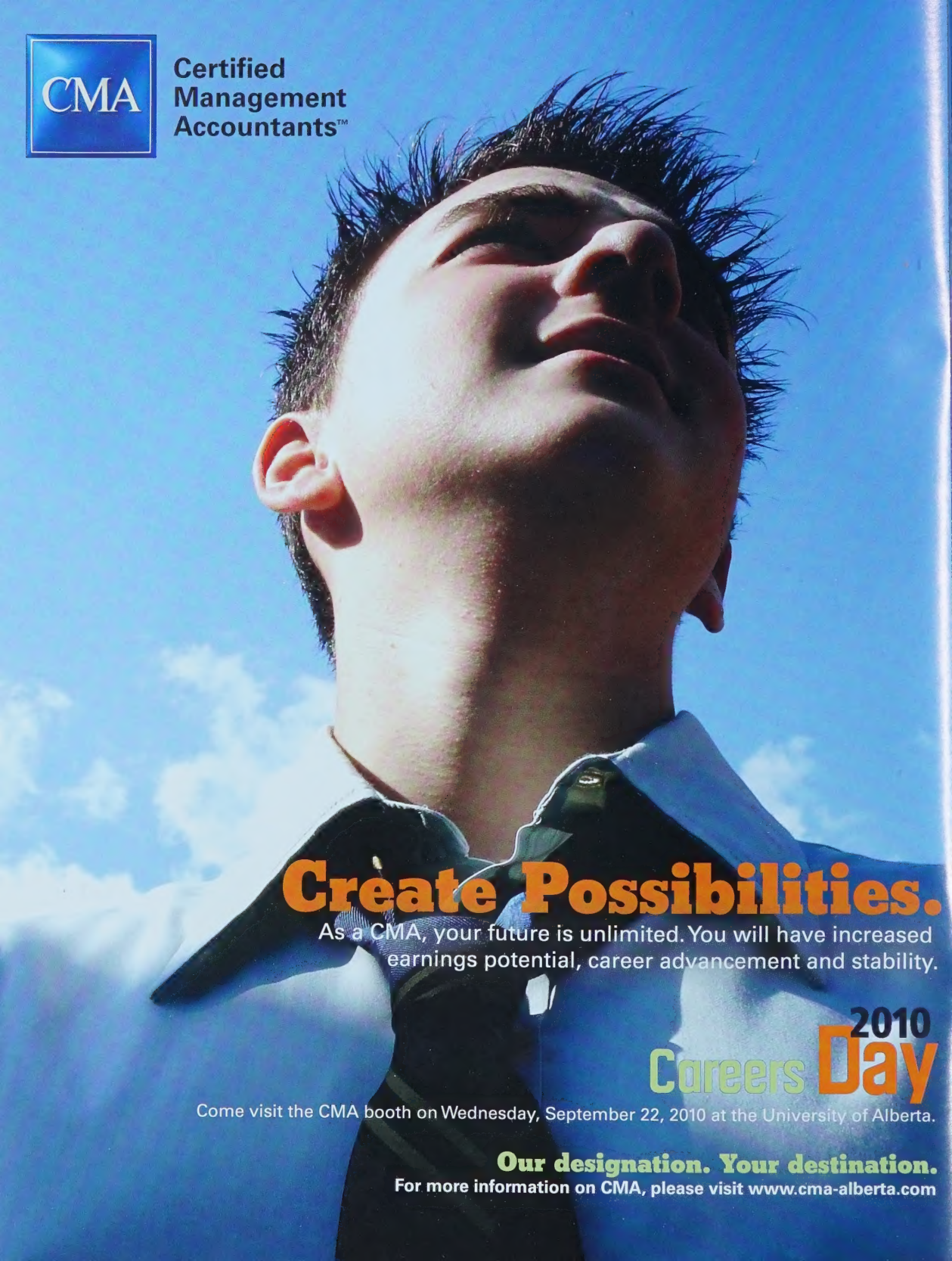
World of Opportunity

So, you want to be your own boss?

Get ready for Careers Day 2010

Find a Career Mentor

Work Search Tool Kit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2010
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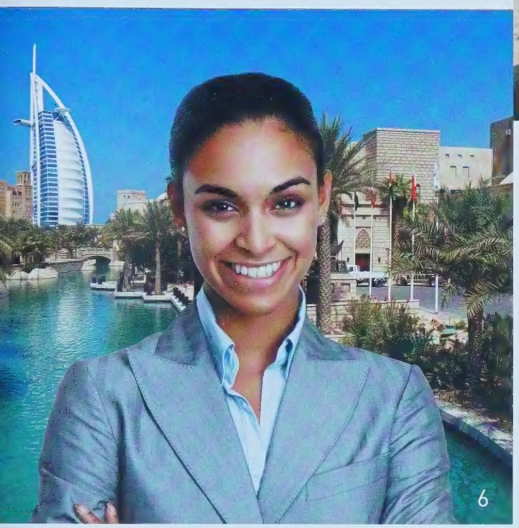
Our designation. Your destination.
For more information on CMA, please visit www.cma-alberta.com

CAREER connections



In this Issue. . .

FEATURES

A World of Opportunity 6

Career Mentoring: Learning Through Connections 12

Entrepreneurship: What it is and why it matters 20

Packing Your Work Search Tools Kit 24

Using RSS while Searching for Work 31

Crossword Puzzle 35

Crossword Puzzle Answers 36

DEPARTMENTS

Letter from the director 3

Initial Inquiry for Advanced Degree Holders 4

Graduate Profile: Samara Jones 10

Graduate Profiles: Eric and Ruby Chen, Marty Taylor 23

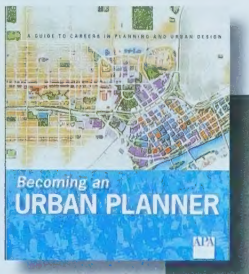
Employer Information Sessions 31

Ask an Employer: About Career Fairs 28

Book Review: Becoming an urban planner 32

CAPS Librarian Hi-5 38

Employer Thank You 40



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Arts Career Fair

Wednesday, October 13, 2010
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Dinwoodie Lounge, 2-000 SUB

Get ready for the Arts Career Fair at the: ArtsWORKS Career Development Conference

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CAREER connections

Fall 2010 issue

Volume 2, Number 1

Career Connections, a free publication, is produced bi-annually through the efforts of CAPS: Your U of A Career Centre. CAPS is a University of Alberta student service and the source for career and employment information and expertise. We offer a number of career services and resources to assist University of Alberta students and alumni in making transitions to, and within, the world of work. We provide the essential link between those looking for work and those looking to hire. CAPS assists employers with their recruitment by helping them connect with students and alumni at the U of A.

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Letter from the director

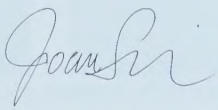
Welcome to the fall 2010 edition of *Career Connections*. The focus of last fall's edition was on finding work during a recession. At that time, how long the recession would last and the impact it would have on student and graduate employment, were unclear and not all that positive. The unemployment rate for youth (15 to 24 year olds) hit 20.9 percent in July 2009, the highest rate since Statistics Canada began collecting comparable date in 1977. Fortunately, students fared much better this past summer. For example, Statistics Canada reports that in May 2010, 54,000 more students between the ages of 20 and 24 found employment than in May 2009, an increase of 3.1 percent.

Despite the recession, 2009-2010 was a very busy year for CAPS. We introduced new programming aimed at helping students explore careers and make connections with professionals working in jobs and organizations they want to learn more about. One of the new programs we launched was Job Shadow Week, which was held during February's Reading Week. Forty students took part in one to four-day job shadows in a variety of areas – human resources, law, journalism and media, and recreation therapy to name a few – with organizations in the public, non-profit and for-profit sectors. The feedback from students and job shadow hosts was overwhelmingly positive, both recognizing the tremendous value of these types of experiential learning activities for one's career development. One of the students was even hired by the organization where she did her job shadow! Our next Job Shadow Week is scheduled for February 22 to 25, 2011.

Another new offering we introduced last year was our Career Mentoring Program, an eight-month program (January to August) that matches students with volunteer mentors who help students develop the professional skills, knowledge, attitudes and connections they will need as they transition to the world of work. Twelve students were accepted into the program last fall and then mentors who could meet students' needs were recruited. All participants were brought together for a mentoring mixer in January. We held a second mixer in the spring and a third at the end of the program. In between, students connected with their mentors in-person, through phone conversations and online to discuss and assess their learning plans. One of the features of this edition of *Career Connections* is career mentoring. It provides valuable information on the why's and how-to's of career mentoring. More information on this year's program, including timelines, is available on our website.

The other feature article of this edition of *Career Connections* is on working abroad. Many students would like to study, work or even volunteer in another country, but believe that it is quite expensive to do so. However, there are many programs, including a number at the U of A, which can make it very affordable option.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of *Career Connections*. As always, I welcome your comments and your ideas for future editions. Please email them to joan.schiebelbein@ualberta.ca.



Initial Inquiry
for Advanced Degree Holders

Q *A prospective employer called to schedule an interview and told me to prepare for a BDI. I really want to ace this interview, but what does BDI mean?*

A BDI stands for Behaviour Descriptive Interview, a style of interview questioning that is becoming increasingly popular with employers. Fortunately, this employer has given advance notice but even without a heads up, you should be prepared for this type of questioning if you want to increase your chances of success. Interviewees who are not prepared for BDI questions can quickly become bewildered during an interview and have difficulty regaining their composure.

Many employers consider BDI questions to be the best indicators of future behaviour or performance. The basic premise is that the more recent and longstanding the behaviour, the greater its predictive power.

The questions, rather than hypothetical, very directly ask for specific examples that demonstrate the interviewee's modus operandi. Some examples of BDI questions are:

- Tell me about a time when you were working as part of a team and one of the team members did not follow through on his or her commitments. How did you handle this situation and what was the result?
- Describe how you achieved your greatest accomplishment.
- Tell me about a time you had difficulty prioritizing tasks and meeting deadlines.
- Give a recent example of when you made a difficult decision. How did you demonstrate sound judgement and what was the outcome?
- Describe a time when you motivated others.

To prepare for BDI questions, identify the core competencies that will be required in the position you are being interviewed for. For each competency, think of one or two actual situations that address the particular competency and reflect positively on your actions. Depending on the position, the competencies could be related to leadership, conflict resolution, initiative, stress management or strategic planning. Based on your knowledge of the employer and the position, develop your competency examples using the STARS formula:

S = SPECIFIC SITUATION
Describe the situation as clearly as possible. Concentrate on details such as the people involved, what your role was, and what the task or goal of the situation was. Provide enough information so the interviewer "sees the picture."

T = TRANSFERABLE SKILLS
Describe the skills you used to deal with the situation. Especially identify the skills you will use at the job you are interviewing for.

A = ACTION
Explain what you did to handle the situation and the sequence you did it in. Demonstrate how your skills were put into effect.

R = RESULT
Explain what the positive results of your actions were.

S = SELF-ASSESSMENT
Demonstrate to the employer that you can assess your skills and learn from your past experience. Explain what you would do the same or differently if faced with a similar situation.

The point is not to memorize your competency examples word for word, but rather to create a mental outline that you can naturally draw from during the interview. If you have not experienced the circumstance posed by the BDI question, do not invent an answer. Interviewers can readily expose dishonesty while probing for further details. Respond truthfully and either describe a related experience or explain hypothetically how you would handle the situation. As Mark Twain said, "If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything."

The BDI does not need to be a daunting experience. By following the above suggestions, you will be well prepared to ace the interview.

For further information on interview workshops or mock interviews visit CAPS.

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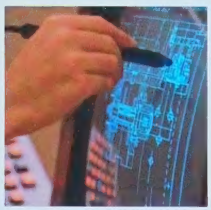

A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY

People who pursue international work do so for various reasons. Some people work abroad as a way to finance travel. Others want to experience what it is like to live and work in a culture different from their own. No matter what your motivation is, there are many factors you should consider when deciding if you will pursue work abroad.

Go it alone or get help

You can certainly plan your international adventure independently. Many have done so quite successfully. Alternatively, you can seek assistance from organizations that specialize in helping people who want to work abroad. In addition to assisting you to find employment, these organizations may help you plan, research and arrange your transportation and lodgings abroad. Some even provide continued support after you arrive at your destination. Even with these supports, there are still many things you will likely need to learn, such as how to buy food, use public transportation, set up personal systems (such as telephone and computer connections) and deal with local bureaucracy.

A quick search on the Internet will bring up many organizations eager to help make your goal to work abroad a reality. However, finding a legitimate one that will follow through on their commitments can sometimes be a task unto itself. The best way to choose an organization you can trust with this big adventure is to ask for referrals from those who have already used the services and are able to comment on the support they received. Here are some organizations we recommend to students.

Education Abroad Program (EAP)

The University of Alberta's EAP embraces the term "education" wholeheartedly to include credit courses, study terms and paid and non-paid internships. Internships through the EAP exist in many countries including France, Germany, Japan, Kenya, Norway, Singapore, Nairobi and Tanzania. The types of work and volunteer opportunities offered through these internships are varied – from working in a museum or a consulate to working as an engineer or pharmacist. The EAP office is located in HUB mall and welcomes walk-in inquiries. Also see www.international.ualberta.ca.

The best way to choose an organization you can trust with this big adventure is to ask for referrals from those who have already used the services and are able to comment on the support they received.

AIESEC

AIESEC is a student-run and led organization. Members of AIESEC must be active in their local chapter in order to be accepted into an AIESEC sponsored international internship. This allows students to develop their international IQ (keep reading for more information on this) and build their network of contacts before they leave Canada. The AIESEC Global Internship Program offers jobs in general business functions, IT, teaching, and community and social development. For more information: www.aiesec.ca/edmonton.

The International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE)

If you're looking for science or engineering-related work, IAESTE – based out of Queen's University in Ontario – offers support for students by helping them find internships in over 80 countries. To participate, you must be between 18 and 30 years of age and enrolled full-time in a Bachelor's or Master's degree program at the time of application. For more information see www.iaeste.org.

World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms (WWOOF)

For a more rugged international work experience WWOOF Canada offers people of all ages the opportunity to travel the world while working on organic farms. Don't get fooled by the term farming – there is a lot of business to be done, such as bookkeeping and marketing. This immersed experience allows you to live and work with a family abroad and be exposed to local life, culture and, of course, food. For more information see www.wwoof.ca.

Plan ahead

The amount of time you will need to plan for going abroad will depend on a number of factors, such as your destination, intended length of stay and if you are going abroad on a program or have pre-arranged your work experience. Regardless, you will need time to research and understand details such as visa requirements and government bureaucracy, political and cultural conflicts that may interfere with your experience, preparing

effective work search documents for finding work abroad and reviewing employment offers and contracts.

Obtaining a visa

Information on visa requirements for working in a particular country is frequently available on the country's official government website. You can also contact the country's consulate in Canada if they have one. Often, to obtain a visa you must mail your passport to the consulate. It can take a minimum of two weeks for the consulate to return your passport to you.

For most countries to grant you a visa, your passport needs to be valid for 90 days beyond the last day of your proposed stay. Costs for a visa vary and additional costs may include service fees for a certified cheque or money order, self-addressed postage with a tracking number for the safe return of your passport and the cost of additional passport pictures to send with your visa application. There are independent for-profit visa services that can rush your visa request and take care of the work involved but prices for this service can range from three to four times the cost of the visa itself.

Strengthening your international IQ

Your preparations for going abroad should also include strengthening your international IQ. Cultural and political understanding of the region you want to work and live in not only makes you a well rounded applicant but can also heighten your awareness of potential barriers and challenges that could interfere with your work experience.

How do you build your international IQ? Start thinking internationally and surround yourself with things foreign to you (Yeatman & Berdan, 2007). For example, watch an international news channel in addition to your local station; read international newspapers and magazines; learn a foreign language; and connect with local international groups and organizations that can help expose you to other cultures.

For political and economic details of various countries, visit the Government of Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT) at www.international.gc.ca.

Making connections to find work

Well-written and targeted work search tools (e.g. resumes) are very important for finding work abroad. (For more information see Packing your Work Search Tools Kit on page 24.) However, simply sending your resume or CV to employers will not necessarily get you a good international job (Krannich & Enelow, 2002). The best way to land an international job is by networking and building relationships while you are still in Canada. Networking with people locally in order to connect with people across the world may seem fruitless, but the contacts you make locally can have a profound impact on your international work search as they can offer support and help develop your international connections. In early 2008 a CAPS client who was seeking international work opportunities in Hong Kong, took CAPS' advice on networking very seriously. She attended every School of Business event at the University of Alberta and became a recognizable face among U of A dignitaries. Months later when she arrived in Hong Kong jobless, she ran into people she had met at those events at the University of Alberta Hong Kong Alumni Centenary Celebration. They introduced her to influential people in the Hong Kong business community and one of the contacts she made eventually resulted in a job offer.

Employment contracts

Once you receive a job offer, review the employment contract carefully. There are some considerations that are important to note and understand thoroughly before signing. Employment contracts can be very vague or very detailed, depending on the employer, and may cover such details as how you will be paid, whether or not additional expenses such as room and board are covered, what taxes will be charged, which holidays are included in the contract, what the expected hours of work will be, who can terminate or suspend the work and under what conditions, and what the duties and expectations are of you on the job. As excited as you might be to start a new adventure, it is important to ask questions and understand what commitments are being made between parties. If some of the conditions are not met either on your part or on the part of the employer, it is also important to understand your next course of action and cultural differences related to dealing with conflicts. Ideally, you should be addressing your supervisor directly regarding any issues rather than struggling through just to avoid the conflict at hand.

Regardless of the opportunities and challenges you face, an international work experience will most certainly help you grow. You may become more independent, broaden your world view, develop a proficiency in a second language, develop your analytical skills and become more culturally aware. All of these skills are valued by employers in every country, including Canada.

See Graduate Profile: Samara Jones on page 10 for more information on working abroad.

CAPS would like to acknowledge the assistance received from University of Alberta International in supplying information for this article.

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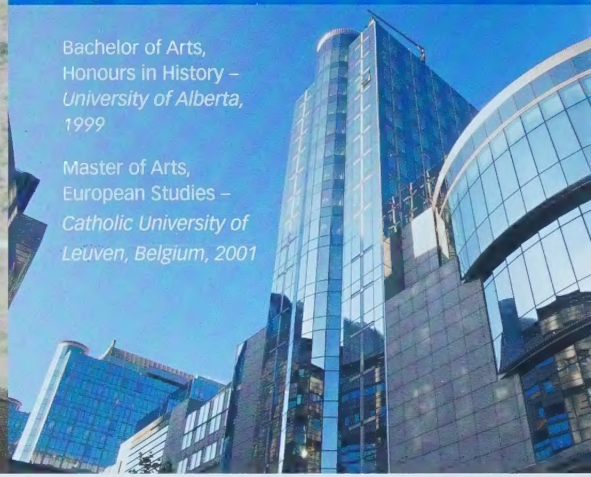
Samara Jones

U of A International

Bachelor of Arts, Honours in History – *University of Alberta, 1999*

Master of Arts, European Studies – *Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, 2001*



Don't let a negative international work or school experience cloud your judgement and stop you from pursuing similiar types of experiences.

That was one of the first lessons Samara Jones, International Internships and Research Coordinator with University of Alberta International (UAI), learned after she worked in France one summer as an au pair. The experience was not a good one and while it left her with a bad taste, she didn't want the only international work experience she had to be a negative one.

"You don't have to be brave to do an international exchange. You just have to be willing to take a chance and try something different. Even if you don't get what you expected out of it, you will always learn something new and take something away from the experience," Samara comments.

With that thought in mind, Samara decided to give going abroad another chance while she was studying towards an Arts degree at the U of A and working at UAI on a part time basis. At UAI, she learned about the different international opportunities available to U of A students. In her third year of university, Samara went on a one year school exchange through UAI to Royal Holloway, University of London. "Going to school and working overseas exposed me to lots of other international students, which was really exciting because that in turn exposed me to experiences and perspectives I would have otherwise not experienced."

After finishing school in London, she returned to complete the last year of her Arts degree at the U of A. Once she graduated, she had questions about what she wanted to do with her degree and desired to go back overseas. One of the career options Samara was considering at the time was teaching, which would require her to go back to school to get an Education degree. She found out about a program through the Department of Modern Languages that brought U of A students to France to teach English as a second language to high school students and jumped at the opportunity to go back overseas.

While Samara learned that teaching wasn't the career for her, she did learn a lot about Europe, met up with old friends from her past international experiences, made new friends and travelled around Europe when she had time off from work. One of the things Samara realized while she was in France was she didn't know much about Europe and how much of a social, political and economic force the European Union (EU) is. She decided that since she was already overseas, she should take complete advantage of her situation by enrolling in a Master's program in Belgium. Through night courses, she learned all about politics, history, law, anthropology and fine arts in the EU. For the thesis component

of her program, Samara looked into the differences between immigration programs in Canada and Belgium as well as the role NGO's play in these programs. She learned that in Canada, NGO's and the government collaborate quite closely on immigration policies and programming, while in Belgium NGO's set the trend on immigration policies and programming.

With the skills she gained in her Master's program, Samara got a job at the European Network for Housing and Homeless Organization through a connection she made while going to school. Samara stresses the importance of making connections to find work: "Everything around careers feels like it's all about luck. You need to be open to different options and make connections in the industry you want to work in; for example, my first job in Belgium came through a connection I made in school when my boss did a presentation for our class. Once I graduated and went for an interview, I was able to make the connection back to his presentation."

She stayed with the organization for three years doing communications and policy work. Samara advises, "If you can get international experience as a student, it's much easier to keep those experiences going after graduation rather than looking for an international job after graduation with no international experience or connections."

Some of the challenges when working abroad are adapting to a new culture, learning that people do things in different ways and that there may be different expectations. For example, Samara learned:"In France and Belgium everything is closed on Sunday. At first I found that frustrating, but you learn to adapt. In Belgium I went to the farmers market every Sunday morning, which isn't necessarily an experience you can get on Sunday mornings in Edmonton."

When living abroad, it is important to surround yourself with good people. Samara made friends with other international students, workers and locals. Having a mix of people to be friends with was important for her to find balance. At times when she was frustrated and having trouble living in a different culture, turning to other international students and workers was helpful. On the other hand, being friends with locals was a wonderful way to really get immersed in the culture - lots of her friends would take her home for family dinners. "Most people are friendly and enthusiastic about where they live without being outrageously nationalistic."

If you want an international experience there is nothing easier than doing a term or a year abroad. I haven't had one student tell me that they were ready to come home afterwards... everyone wants to stay longer!

Back in Canada for a few years now, Samara's return to UAI brought her career full circle. "I was lucky enough to have opportunities to go away when I did and I know how important it is now that I am back to share my experiences and connect firsthand with students who are interested in going overseas. Lots of the questions they have are questions that I had."

So what kind of advice does Samara have for students who come in to visit her? "If you want an international experience there is nothing easier than doing a term or a year abroad. I haven't had one student tell me that they were ready to come home afterwards... everyone wants to stay longer!" she says.

"I can connect the experience I had and the work I had done to show that I really could work well with students at the U of A and have a much more concrete and specific impact on their lives. I want the students who come to UAI to have an experience that meets their needs and I get a tremendous amount of satisfaction seeing a student go off and do something amazing. Every week you see a student go off on an experience that is going to change their lives." (See A World of Opportunities on page 6 to read more about working abroad.)

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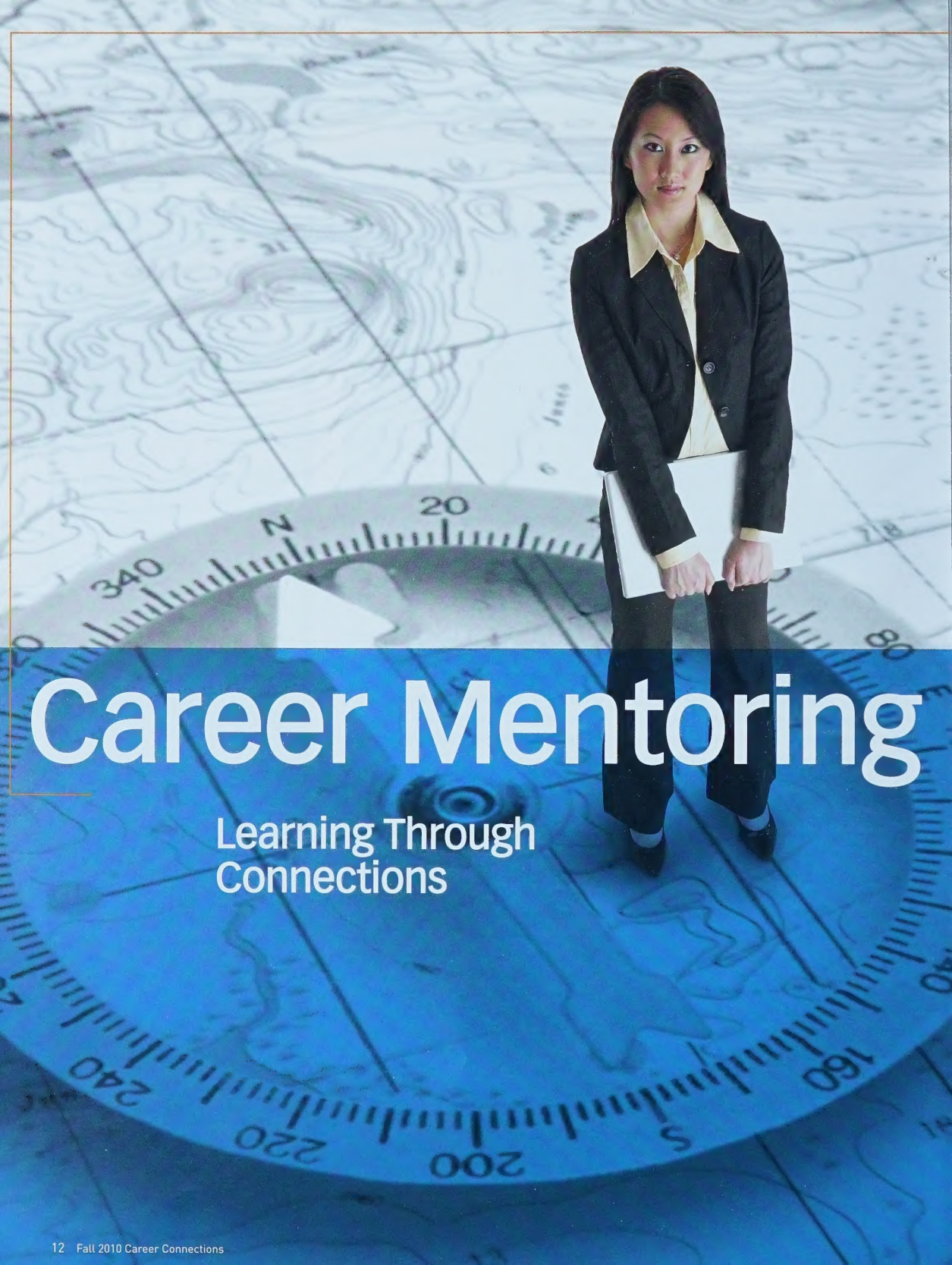

Career Mentoring

Learning Through Connections

"I personally have pursued mentors because I believe it's the fastest way to learn about something. Besides, it allows you to learn from other people's mistakes and add their experiences to yours," comments Mohamed El-Daly, a U of A student currently completing his PhD in Civil Engineering.

Mohamed is serious about connecting with and learning from experienced individuals; in fact, he has two mentors, each providing support and advice in different realms. Describing his first mentor, his former high school chemistry teacher, Mohamed says: "He supports me in generic life and personal plans. We usually meet on a monthly basis for a chat over lunch or dinner and I communicate any concerns I have or ideas I'm planning to pursue. He adds his input and usually challenges my ideas and plays the devil's advocate role." Offering help with academic and professional development plans, Mohamed's second mentor is a professor from his undergraduate engineering program in Egypt: "When I was considering graduate studies, he was the key person with whom I discussed different options and generated ideas. He graduated from University of Southern California (USC) so he was able to relate to what I'll be going through and provide insights on living and studying abroad."

Mohamed's experience illustrates several points about mentoring. Perhaps most importantly, there is a wide range of types, methods and understandings of mentoring. Mentoring has a long history, from apprentice-master relationships in the Middle Ages to contemporary programs that connect troubled teens with life skill mentors in the community. Individuals can have multiple mentors with different skill sets – for most people, one mentor cannot meet their needs in all areas of their lives. To put it simply, mentoring is "a one-to-one process of helping individuals to learn and develop" (Tabbron, Macaulay & Cook, 1997, pp.6). At CAPS, we encourage mentoring that supports students and alumni in managing their careers. A career mentor is a trusted advisor or guide who supports you in setting and working towards specific professional development goals.

Setting the context

Connecting with one or several mentors can be very helpful in managing your career. In the contemporary North American world of work, individuals are facing a socio-political context radically different from that of even thirty years ago. Due to globalization, social shifts and technological advances, "adults will need higher levels of career management as they experience greater amounts of workplace change" (Feller and Wichard, 2005, pp.77).

In making the decision to attend university, you find yourself entering a world of critical inquiry and personal growth. Integral to this decision are also notions regarding future employment goals and career paths. Unfortunately, false beliefs and unrealistic expectations about careers can lead to dissatisfying and unsuccessful career decisions (Dubois as cited in Laker, 2002).

Another key consideration in your career is the role of happenstance. Talk to your friends and family and you'll soon see a trend of people working in jobs and fields totally different from what they had planned when they were 18 years old. Unexpected events and connections play a huge role in most careers, such as being offered a paid job with an organization you are volunteering for. A 'planned happenstance' approach to your career means you intentionally try new things and meet new people in order to generate your own so-called lucky or coincidental events. When these lucky or coincidental events (i.e. happenstances) present themselves, you view them as opportunities and actively dive in, even if you don't know what the exact outcomes will be. (See the article *'From Career Planning to Career Engagement'* in the winter 2010 issue of *Career Connections*, available on CAPS website, pages 6 to 9, for further discussion of career management and happenstance.)

"Find and nourish a mentor"

Engaging with a mentor can make all the difference when you are sifting through these complex career considerations. In fact, an annual survey of hiring managers asked the question: "What suggestions would you provide for job hunters to better prepare for the increasingly competitive and challenging job market?" Over the three years of the survey, "network, and find and nourish a mentor" consistently came back as one of the top 10 responses (Mangum, 1996, n.p.) A mentor can offer you encouragement and professional advice and act as an informal coach, role model and broker. One of the primary tasks of a career mentor is to help you develop skills, knowledge, attitudes and connections that will help you as

What can a career mentor offer?

- Information, advice and guidance from someone with professional experience
- Nonjudgemental feedback and practise developing transferable skills
- Access to new contacts and community connections
- Realistic, first-hand information about career paths, jobs, industries and work settings
- Insight and clarity about your academic goals and futureplans
- Self-confidence and composure
- Exposure to unexpected or 'happenstance' opportunities

you navigate the world of work. In 2009, CAPS introduced a formal career mentoring program that matches U of A students with volunteer career mentors from the community for an eight month period. Some of the student mentees involved in the CAPS Career Mentoring Program shared why they wanted a mentor:

"I want to get more industry knowledge, make some connections and get a perspective of the different options I might have in the field."
-Undergraduate student, ALES (Environmental Economics and Policy)

"The first goal I have in my mind is to find what exactly I like about my field of interest, which is chemical engineering. So I want to understand what a chemical engineer does in industry, what are the duties that a chemical engineer has, what sort of roles they play, and find out what I like the best."
-Master student, Chemical Engineering (Process Engineering)

Okay, you're convinced! Having a mentor would be really helpful for managing your career. But remember that the ultimate goal of mentoring is your learning. This requires you to be self-reflective and to actively engage in the process. A traditional view of mentoring is that of an authoritative teacher transferring wisdom to a passive learner. More recently, there has been a shift in mentorship thinking to see the mentor as less of an authority and more of a facilitator. The emphasis is on collaborative learning. A mentor and mentee share responsibility when deciding on learning goals, priorities and resources.

Getting started

You can find mentors in many different ways – from formal structured programs to informal one-on-one arrangements. No matter how you connect with a mentor, effective preparation is key. Before you approach anyone to be a mentor, either as part of a formal program or on your own, you must start by considering what you want from the relationship.

Reflect on the experiences and strengths you already have, personally and professionally. This will help you consider the competencies (i.e. skills, knowledge, attitudes and connections) you want to develop, as well as what kind of mentor and experiences will best help you:

- Write down important challenges, disappointments, transforming experiences and successes along your educational and career path so far.
- In what ways are you different today than five years ago?
- What assumptions do you have about your impact, role, value and self-confidence?

Now imagine yourself in the future:

- What job are you doing? How are you contributing?
- What are people saying about you and your performance? What impact do you have on others?
- In what ways have you developed or raised your skill levels?

The right mentor can help you develop and move towards your preferred future. Your goals may revolve around developing:

- Skills; for example, networking; writing reports; public speaking; balancing work and personal life; personal organization.
- Knowledge; for example, lessons your mentor learned during her or his career; how to advance in a given field; career opportunities with a particular educational background; unwritten professional/workplace rules and politics; etiquette for business/work events; industry-specific research and resources.
- Attitudes; for example, assertiveness; confidence in presenting ideas; flexibility; empathy and patience; optimism.
- Connections; for example, meeting contacts or experts in a particular field or sector; introductions to others with different skills and experiences; workplace visits/ job shadowing; attendance at professional meetings and activities.

Take advantage of existing programs

If you are so lucky as to have access to a formal mentoring program, be sure to take advantage of it! Some professions, such as teaching, nursing, social work, pharmacy and psychology, offer formal, facilitated mentoring by matching students or new graduates with more experienced individuals in the same field. APEGGA, the regulatory body for engineers, geologists and geophysicists in Alberta, offers a for-fee mentoring program that matches new members-in-training with more experienced professionals. These types of programs help mentees professionalize and adopt standard norms and values in their field.

Alternatively, mentoring programs may be available for members of specific demographic groups. Women, visible minorities, sexual minorities and people with disabilities may be able to access professional mentoring programs that can help them navigate unique career obstacles and challenges. For example, the Women's Initiative for Leadership Learning (WILL) Program offered by Alberta Venture connects women in the final year of a post-secondary program with a female business or engineering mentor. MentorMatch is an online service that connects people with mentors who are blind or partially sighted and employed in their career field of interest. The availability of professional mentoring programs varies greatly; do an online search to see if a related professional mentoring program exists for your area of interest.

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Organizations may offer internal mentoring programs that match new hires with more experienced staff members. Since formal mentoring programs tend to require quite a bit of administration and resources, they are more common in larger organizations; examples include the Royal Bank, Rogers Communications and the City of Edmonton. If you are researching organizations or preparing for a job interview, consider checking the organization's website for mention of mentoring opportunities and take advantage of them whenever possible. Beyond specific organizations, you can also seek out sector-based mentoring programs, such as the Nonprofit Mentoring Program for people working in non-profit organizations or the Canadian Youth Business Foundation's mentoring program for youth (18 to 34) who want to start a business.

Create your own mentor(s)

If you can't find or aren't interested in a formal mentoring programs, you can always connect with a mentor on your own. This can be intimidating, but remember the benefits! Zachary (2009, p. 40) provides a criteria-based decision-making model to use when selecting a mentor.

STEP 1: Identify your goals. Consider why you want a mentor. What do you hope to achieve?

STEP 2: Create a list of criteria. Identify the qualities you want in a mentor; for example, knowledgeable about a specific field or specific employer. What kind of person have you worked with and responded to well in the past?

STEP 3: Determine qualities that are 'must-haves.' Keep these to a minimum.

STEP 4: Rank the remaining criteria that you want (but don't need) in order of importance.

STEP 5: Brainstorm a list of possible mentors. List everyone you can think of – previous supervisors, family, friends, professors, teachers, staff from organizations you volunteer with, members of professional associations. Search out potential names through people you know. Ask people: "Do you know someone who is like this? Do you know someone who does this? Do you know someone who would know someone like this?"

STEP 6: Eliminate possible mentors that don't meet your 'must-have' criteria.

STEP 7: Rate the remaining possible mentors against your 'wanted' criteria.

STEP 8: Make the decision. Who best meets the criteria you set?

When you initially approach someone to be your mentor, you are asking them for a large commitment of time and energy. Keep in mind that mentors also benefit from and enjoy working with mentees. When first meeting with a potential mentor, explain your situation and goals in having a mentor, and why you have specifically approached them. The mentor needs to be able to assess if they have the expertise and time to help you. Remember: the worst that someone can say is 'no.'

Gaining the most from your mentor

1. LAY THE FOUNDATION

Zachary (2009) suggests the following initial strategies when you first start working with your mentor:

- Take time getting to know each other.
- Talk about mentoring. Share previous mentoring experiences you've both had.
- Share your learning goals.
- Determine relationship needs and expectations. How will you communicate (phone, email, coffee meetings) and how often?
- Share your assumptions, needs, expectations and limitations. Clarify areas your mentor feels comfortable helping you with. Talk about confidentiality.

2. CLARIFY LEARNING GOALS

Writing down learning goals will focus and add accountability to your relationship and provide you with a point of reference. Take your broad initial ideas and make them SMART (specific, measurable, action-oriented, realistic and timely).

- A broad initial goal to "Have good work-life balance" can be specified as "Manage my time better so I can volunteer at least three times per week."
- When setting SMART goals, ask yourself: What would this goal mean if it were achieved?

3. SEARCH FOR AND MAKE THE MOST OF LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

To develop your skills, knowledge, attitudes and connections, you will need to try different learning opportunities and activities planned with your mentor. These may include job shadowing, planning an event together, reading and research, discussing articles, attending professional events together, sitting in on meetings, or attending CAPS career fairs or forums.

4. HELP YOUR MENTOR PROVIDE YOU WITH THE RIGHT KIND OF CHALLENGE AND SUPPORT

It is important that your mentor help you stretch, try new things, take risks and consider alternate perspectives. Asking clearly for what you need can be awkward at first, but will help the process:

- "What I am really looking for is some advice about..."

Generally, a good career mentor:

- enjoys helping others
- has knowledge they want to share
- is open-minded and nonjudgemental
- is empathetic and encouraging
- has good communication and listening skills
- can stimulate others' thinking and reflection
- sees being a career mentor as a way to personally grow

Learning Journals

You may find keeping a learning journal useful; write entries before and after your mentoring meetings. Include your feelings and your thoughts. You may want to start with sentences such as:

- The most important work we did today...
- How I will apply what I've learned...
- What questions or challenges remain for me...

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An example of how your mentor can provide support

You and your mentor are going to attend a meeting together. Your mentor prepares you by describing the purpose of the meeting, who will be there, everyone's role, and things to look/listen for during the meeting. You follow the meeting with a discussion about what was learned and how the experience connects to your learning goals.

- "What will happen if..."
- "What I really need is a new way of thinking about..."

5. WORK WITH YOUR MENTOR TO MONITOR YOUR PROGRESS ON YOUR LEARNING GOALS

During meetings, return to your learning goals and revise them as appropriate; use them as a focal point for discussions. You will also need to focus on the quality of the mentoring relationship itself in order to keep your interactions valuable and productive. "One of the principal reasons mentoring relationships fail is that the learning process is not tended to and the focus on learning goals is not maintained" (Zachary, 2000, p.1).

6. END THE RELATIONSHIP GRACEFULLY

It is important to anticipate and plan for the end of a mentoring relationship, even in a formal mentoring program with a set end date. It may be time to end a mentoring relationship once you have achieved your initial learning goals, your goals and mentoring needs have substantially changed, or the relationship has become unproductive and unsatisfying. The conclusion of the mentoring relationship involves evaluating, acknowledging and celebrating the achievements you've had.

Take control of your career

Pursuing a career mentor with commitment and enthusiasm can be immensely satisfying for both you and your mentor(s). Mohamed, our actively engaged student mentioned earlier on, leaves you with this advice: "Be proactive and take initiative. Although a mentor might care for you, a good mentor reacts to what you say or do. They will never act first. So take the lead and drive the relationship forward."

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Resources and articles:

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Mentoring programs mentioned:

APEGGA: http://www.apegga.org/members/Mentoring/tocmap.html

WILL: http://albertaventure.com/2009/07/women-in-leadership-learning-will-program/

MentorMatch: http://www.careerconnect.org/cnib/home.asp

Royal Bank: http://www.rbc.com/responsibility/workplace/diversity.html

Rogers Communications: http://your.rogers.com/aboutrogers/CSR/workplacepractices/trainingeducation.asp

City of Edmonton: http://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/jobs/employee-development.aspx

Nonprofit Mentoring Program: http://www.cfnps.org/mentoring_learn.aspx

Canadian Youth Business Foundation: http://www.cybf.ca/entrepreneurs/index.php

Applications for the Career Mentoring Program are due in October 2010 and Job Shadow Week in January 2011. Watch for information sessions about both events prior to application dates. Check the CAPS website for updates.

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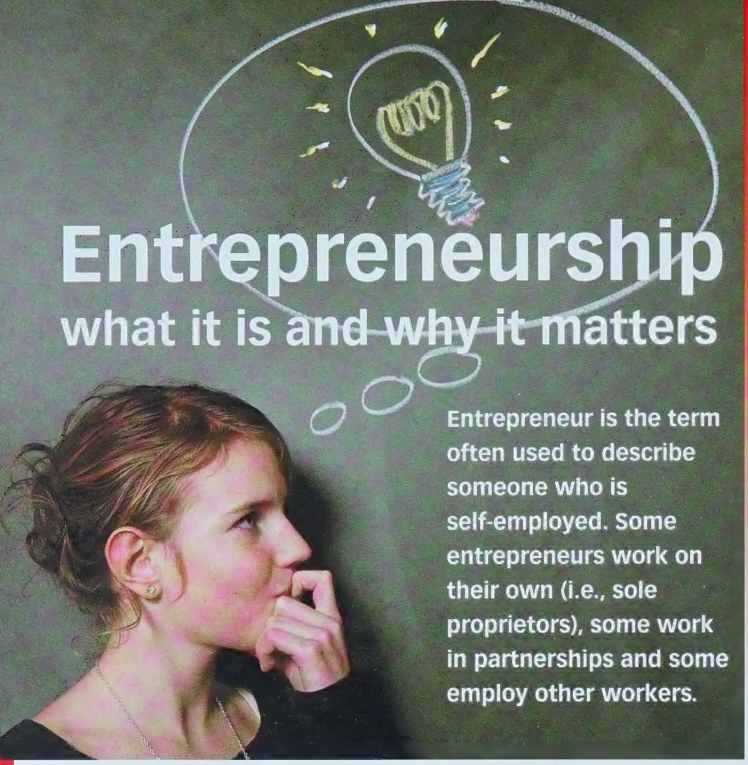


Entrepreneurship

what it is and why it matters

Entrepreneur is the term often used to describe someone who is self-employed. Some entrepreneurs work on their own (i.e., sole proprietors), some work in partnerships and some employ other workers.

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce reports that the ranks of the self-employed increased by 3.1 percent in 2009. By the end of 2009, 16 percent of employed Canadians were self-employed *(Downturn, Recovery, and the Future Evolution of the Labour Market, February 2010)*.

The reasons people pursue self-employment are varied. Certainly, economic downturn can be an impetus for seeking new and creative opportunities to deal with job loss. However, since 2001 entrepreneurial activity in Canada has been quite steady and robust with an overall gain in business start-ups. Industry Canada cites the following three main reasons for this trend:

- The implicit understanding between employers and employees has changed. In the past, people expected to be retained as employees as long as they did their jobs. Economic downturns of the past few decades have been accompanied by downsizing. Some people want to regain control over their livelihood by running their own business.
- People — especially younger people — increasingly prefer an independent lifestyle. They want to do work they like and have autonomy over their hours and working conditions.
- Entrepreneurs have become influential and enjoy a certain prestige. Canadian entrepreneurs are celebrated in their communities and in the media. In an age where many people are cynical about public figures, entrepreneurs are becoming new role models.

During the period 2001-2006, the birth rate of start-ups with paid employees was consistently higher than the death rate. Data collected for this period also indicates that start-ups have high survival rates. More than half of Canada's new businesses survive at least five years suggesting they are productive and innovative enough to withstand changing market conditions (*The State of Entrepreneurship in Canada*, February 2010, www.ic.gc.ca/sbresearch).

With relatively few large multinational corporations existing in Canada, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are the main drivers of economic growth and job creation. According to Industry Canada, 98 percent of businesses in Canada are considered small and employ approximately five million individuals or 48 percent of the total labour force in the private sector. Industry Canada defines firms with fewer than 100 employees as small, 100 to 499 employees as medium-sized, and 500 or more employees as large (*Key Small Business Statistics*, July 2009, www.ic.gc.ca/sbstatistics).

Self-serving or Self-transcending?

Entrepreneurship has the potential to benefit both the individual entrepreneur and society at large. In addition to driving productivity, job creation and economic growth, entrepreneurial activity can enhance quality of life and effectively address social and environmental issues. The School of Business at the University of Alberta houses the Canadian Centre for Social Entrepreneurship (CCSE) with a focus on social innovation through entrepreneurial activity. According to CCSE's late Executive Director, Dr. Gary McPherson, "Social Entrepreneurship strives to combine the heart of business with the heart of the community through the creativity of the individual." (http://apps.business.ualberta.ca/ccse/).

Although a distinction between social and business entrepreneurship is often made using profit – or the pursuit of profit – as one of the main differentials, this need not be the case. Dame Anita Roddick, founder of The Body Shop, very successfully combined business with environmentalism by pioneering a line of cruelty-free beauty products from natural ingredients.

Entrepreneurship, whether it is labelled social or business, transcends disciplines and restrictive definitions. *The Kauffman Report on Entrepreneurship in American Higher Education* states "entrepreneurship is more than a business practice. As a distinct mode of thought and action, it derives from business but can operate in any realm of human endeavor... It requires knowledge, imagination, perception, practicality, persistence, and attention to others. Entrepreneurship is a self-actualizing and a self-transcending

activity that—through responsiveness to the market—integrates the self, the entrepreneur, with society. Unavoidably, therefore, entrepreneurship is an exercise in social responsibility." (www.kauffman.org).

Invention or Innovation?

Becoming an entrepreneur does not mean having to generate totally original ideas to succeed or contribute to society in meaningful ways. Opportunities can emerge from established concepts and changing demographic, social, environmental, economic, regulatory and technological conditions (*The State of Entrepreneurship in Canada*, February 2010, www.ic.gc.ca/sbresearch).

Although entrepreneurship is often equated with invention, many successful businesses have been built on existing ideas. Henry Ford said he invented nothing new, but simply assembled into a car the discoveries of others behind whom were centuries of work. Apple's first generation iPod was unveiled in 2001, 22 years after British inventor Kane Kramer designed one of the first digital audio players. If not inventors, Ford and Apple surely are innovators.

Since innovation – the cornerstone of entrepreneurship – can involve and thus often be mistaken for invention, the distinction between the two is important to note. Professor Jan Fagerberg of the Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture at the University of Oslo discusses the difference in his 2003 paper *Innovation: A Guide to the Literature*: "Invention is the first occurrence of an idea for a new product or process. Innovation is the first commercialization of the idea. Sometimes invention and innovation are closely linked, to the extent that it is hard to distinguish one from another (biotechnology for instance). In many cases, however, there is a considerable time lag between the two…while inventions may be carried out anywhere such as, for instance, in universities, innovations occur mostly in firms in the commercial sphere. To be able to turn an invention into an innovation a firm normally needs to combine several different types of knowledge, capabilities, skills and resources. For instance the firm may require production knowledge, skills and facilities, market knowledge, a well- functioning distribution system, sufficient financial resources and so on. It follows that the role of the innovator, e.g., the person or organizational unit responsible for combining the factors necessary (what the innovation-theorist Joseph Schumpeter called the "entrepreneur"), may be quite different from that of the inventor." Fagerberg describes Joseph Schumpeter as one of the most original social scientists of the 20th century who defined innovation as "new combinations" of existing resources and labelled this combinatory activity "the entrepreneurial function."

Nature or Nurture?

"It's in the DNA," says Ann Winblad, co-founder of Hummer Winblad Venture Partners in San Francisco. Winblad, who has built her career and risked millions on her ability to predict who will succeed as an entrepreneur, believes "An entrepreneur is a kind of genius who is born, not made." (*FORTUNE Small Business: Can entrepreneurship be taught?*, Patricia B. Gray, March 10, 2006).

On the other hand, proponents of entrepreneurship education contend that entrepreneurial behaviour and skill sets can be acquired and applied broadly. Industry Canada's *Small Business Quarterly* reports that entrepreneurship education in Canada is "an important determinant in building a global competitive advantage." (Volume 11, No.4, February 2010, www.ic.gc.ca/SMEquarterly).

Resources:

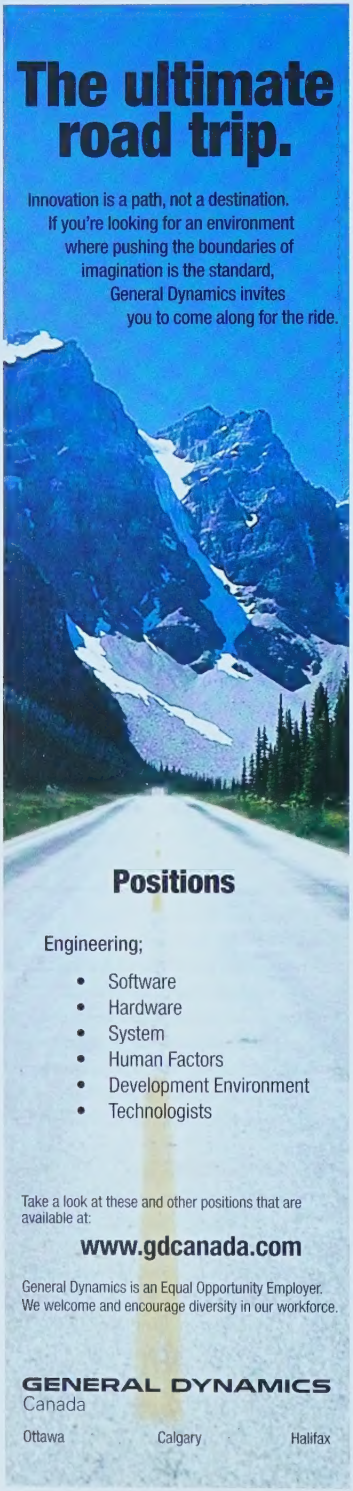
- The Business Link
  www.canadabusiness.ab.ca
- The Business Development Bank of Canada
  www.bdc.ca
- Entrepreneurial self-assessment
  www.bdc.ca
- DECSA – Ventures Program: Provides support to individuals residing in Edmonton or the surrounding area and living with a permanent disability with a realistic entrepreneurial goal or business idea.
  www.decsa.com
- TEC Edmonton
  www.tecedmonton.com

Dr. Dennis J. Ceru, an adjunct professor of entrepreneurship and business strategy at Babson College in Wellesley, Massachusetts, says, "Entrepreneurial thinking and acting involves three stages: First is creativity and ideation; second is implementation and application; and third is the action stage—you take these ideas and you make something happen. This crosses all disciplines, and holds valuable lessons for all students, not just MBA students. It centers on a way of thinking followed by a way of acting. Acting without thought is impulsive, and thinking without acting is just 'cocktail party entrepreneurship.'" To boost creativity, Ceru explains "we take students through a series of structured exercises that get them to start thinking differently and to open their minds to look at lateral vs. directional, and divergent vs. convergent ways of thinking. Students practice techniques of looking at situations to generate new ideas, new ways of thinking, new products, new services, and new concepts and processes…. Because some of what we do is very unusual, students are often taken off balance at first—which is exactly what we want! We get students to start seeing that thinking entrepreneurially and then taking action is a very dynamic, open-ended way of tackling not just business problems but also life problems." (The Aspen Institute Center for Business Education, *A Closer Look at Business Education: Entrepreneurship*, January 2009).

"If you think you're too small to have an impact, try going to bed with a mosquito."
—Anita Roddick

Profit or Passion?

Successful entrepreneurs often combine making a profit with personal fulfillment and doing what they enjoy. In the article A Hobby Becomes a Career, from *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, January 26, 2010, Susan Basalla May interviews ex-graduate student Abby Markoe who turned her love of playing squash into a career as Executive Director of an urban squash program. Markoe played squash to relieve stress while working on her PhD in the history of



medicine and public health at Johns Hopkins University. She developed Baltimore SquashWise with a group from her gym as a personal project outside of graduate school. When the need for the Executive Director position arose, she successfully applied and made the decision to leave her doctoral program.

John Stanton, founder of the Running Room and Walking Room, opened his first store and meeting place for runners after deciding on a lifestyle change. He was overweight, out-of-shape, smoked two packs of cigarettes a day and "could only run from lamp post to lamp post before having to take a walk break." The family company now has over 100 stores in Canada and the United States (www.runningroom.com).

Richard Branson, founder of Virgin Group, believes "you should start your business around something that is a passion of yours. If you're into kite-surfing and you want to become an entrepreneur, do it with kite-surfing." At age 16, Branson started a magazine called *Student* – his first business idea. Originally wanting to be an editor, he entered the world of business by selling advertising to ensure the magazine's survival (http://money.cnn.com/magazines/business2/business2_archive/2006/08/01/8382250/).

Nancy Smithers' interest in herbs began as a hobby. She founded Naturally Nova Scotia and distributes products globally (Colleen Jones, CBC News Halifax, May 23, 2010). What began in her kitchen has grown into a 250 acre farmstead employing over 40 staff (http://public.naturallynovascotia.com).

Check out the Entrepreneur Profiles of three U of A Graduates on page 23.

Discovery and Delivery

In summary, the relevancy of entrepreneurship cannot simply be reduced to one sector or discipline. The Kauffman Report supports the building and maintaining of an entrepreneurial society: "As the world's natural resources ebb and technology advances, humanity will increasingly live by its wits." Additionally, as natural and human-made disasters occur, global resources are becoming increasingly strained while social and environmental concerns mount. Entrepreneurial

discovery (thinking) and delivery (acting) are crucial to the navigation of a knowledge economy and cultivation of a sustainable future.

If you are interested in learning more about entrepreneurship or are thinking of starting your own business, CAPS has a number of resources available in the CAPS Resource Centre. There you will find guides on how to set up and manage a small business, information on funding programs and financing a business, ideas for marketing a product or service and much more.

We have also compiled a series of links to helpful self-employment related websites. Go to www.caps.ualberta.ca/LookingForWork/ (click on 'The WORKbook: Learning with CAPS online' and then on CAPS Tips Sheets, Resources and Links for self-employment links).

Starting Your Own Business

These U of A grads started their own businesses. They offer insight into owning their own businesses and advice on starting your own.

Eric and Ruby Chen

Peas on Earth Organic Farm
Bachelor of Science, Agriculture Economics (Eric)
Bachelor of Commerce (Ruby)

Peas on Earth Organic Farm was founded by Eric and Ruby in 2000. They grow a variety of organic vegetables, herbs and exotic greens. They don't just grow vegetables as food to fill the stomach, but also for their nutritional values, medicinal purposes, tastes and textures. Their goal is to learn to make use of Mother Nature to grow the best food and help people achieve optimum health!

What advice do you have for students who are interested in opening their own business?

Have a realistic dream. Think about it, plan it and then execute it. Be prepared to run into different obstacles because that's part of running any kind of business. Believe in yourself and follow your dream. Learn as much as you can in group projects in university because they can really prepare you for real life business scenarios. It definitely helps to learn some basic accounting, marketing and business management if you want to start a business. Networking with people around you wherever you are is also crucial.

What are some of the challenges and benefits of owning your own business?

There are endless benefits and challenges to owning your own business. You really have to weigh the costs and benefits of it. Ultimately if you have a good plan and are willing to work hard, this is already the beginning of a successful business.

You are your own boss and are in control of all aspects of the business including finance, marketing and personnel. Owning your own business allows you to take care of your family. However, it doesn't mean working less hours. It actually means working longer hours but allows you to plan your business meetings and other schedules on your own time. It is also very rewarding to find out your ideas work and to see the company grow.

Starting up a business can be very time consuming, costly and risky since there is no proven formula. Owners tend to work long hours in the beginning before finding a workable system. There are always unplanned events or surprises that arise at any time which means owners are on call 24/7.

Marty Taylor

Interpreting Consolidated
Certificate in Sign Language Interpreting from Seattle Community College
BA in Psychology, MA in Ed Psych from California State University Northridge
Ph.D. in Ed Psych from U of A

Interpreting Consolidated was founded in 1993. The company specializes in the areas of sign language, interpretation, and education of interpreters and those who employ interpreters. Interpreting Consolidated works with Deaf and non-Deaf individuals and public and private agencies and organizations including school districts and government departments primarily in Canada and the United States.

Their mandate is to improve the degree to which sign language and interpreting students and practitioners interact with and provide service to hearing and Deaf consumers.

Career paths are often influenced significantly by unplanned events or happenstance such as meeting a mentor, being in the right place at the right time or a life changing event. Can you tell me about some of the unplanned events that led up to your career?

When I was in high school I met a girl who was Deaf. She and I rode the same school bus, although we attended different schools. We would watch for each other before and after school and get together to sign. She taught me American Sign Language (ASL). Then I registered in continuing education ASL classes with my mother because I was too young to take the classes on my own. In the middle of the first semester our teacher asked if we could take two deaf-blind sisters who lived independently shopping on a weekly basis. The sisters were born Deaf and as adults became blind due to a genetic condition. They were beautiful signers and taught me a great deal. These early events lead to a very satisfying career in interpreting, interpreter education and interpreter-related product development.

Also, my father had his own small business so I learned from an early age how to stuff envelopes with invoices, talk with customers and answer the phone.

What advice do you have for students who are interested in opening their own business?

Find your passion. Do your research on the product(s), the customers and the likely longevity of your business/product. Find your niche and/or create one. Stay with what you know, or learn from the best and work with the best in your chosen area. Listen and ask plenty of questions.

PACKING YOUR WORK SEARCH TOOLS KIT

When it comes to looking for work, knowledge of the sector and occupation you want to work in, an understanding of the most effective strategies for finding work in your target area and well honed interview skills are all very important. So too are strong work search tools – written pieces you use to communicate information about you to potential employers.

Two work search tools that come to mind are the resume and cover letter. Most employers will want to see at least your resume before deciding whether to interview you. Even if you are not asked for one, we recommend including a cover letter with your resume. It provides you with a key opportunity to highlight two or three points related to your experience and skills that make you a strong candidate, as well as make your application stand out from others.

There are many books and websites available on how to write effective resumes and cover letters. You can access some of our favourite publications in our career resource libraries in SUB and HUB, including books that focus on specific career fields. Sifting through all the advice can be time consuming, so we've put together our top five tips for easy reference.

TIP1 TARGET, TARGET, TARGET

Targeting means emphasizing what you have in common with what the employer is seeking. At CAPS we developed a framework for a targeted resume that includes four components: content, format, wording and presentation.

Content refers to what you actually include in your resume. For example, if the position you're applying for involves a lot of group work, describe all those experiences – work, volunteer and academic – that involved you working in teams. You should also highlight your teamwork skills in your cover letter. Here's another example. Most people don't include their high school education on their resume because it is often irrelevant to the position they are seeking. However, if you came from a rural community and are applying for work in a rural community, it could be to your advantage to include your high school. Retention is a key issue for employers who operate in rural areas. By including your high school you are communicating to the employer that you understand life in rural communities.

Format refers to the categorizing and sequencing of information in your resume. Most new graduates put education as the first category on their resume. In many cases, particularly when you require a specific degree or diploma for a job, listing your education first makes sense. However, if your education isn't as important and if, for example, you've had one or more paid or volunteer positions directly related to the job you're applying for, then you want to make sure those experiences are front and centre on your resume.

Wording refers to the vocabulary used to describe your experiences and skills. Look at the words and phrases the employer uses to describe the job and the qualities of the ideal candidate. Use the same and similar words and phrases in your resume and cover letter.

Lastly, presentation refers to the visual appearance of your resume. Most employers expect a fairly standard presentation – white or off-white paper,

two different typefaces and bullets, well labeled sections with bold headings, and lots of 'white space.' If you are applying for a job that requires a lot of creativity, you might deviate from this standard. For example, many years ago – before graphic design software was readily available and easy to use – a marketing student created a folder for her resume that was covered with photos of shoes she'd cut from magazines. The first thing the employer read upon opening the folder was 'Now that I have my foot in the door…' This presentation worked well for her as it gave her the chance to demonstrate her creative abilities. It wouldn't work for all jobs however!

TIP2 DEVELOP A MASTER RESUME

It probably goes without saying, but if the most effective resume is one that is targeted as described above then you shouldn't use the same resume for every position you apply for. The same advice goes for cover letters. What can be helpful – especially when it comes to putting together a resume for a job you hear about just before the application deadline date – is to create a master resume that includes all of your academic, work and volunteer experiences, as well as information about extracurricular activities or interests, certifications, associations and the like. Then when you come across a job you want to apply for, you can select from your master resume the most relevant information to include in the resume you submit for the position.

It is also helpful to keep a copy of the cover letter you submit for each position you apply for. The structure and some of the information you include in your cover letters will be the same or similar. It is a lot quicker to adapt a letter you've already written than create a new one from scratch.

TIP3 INCLUDE A HIGHLIGHT SECTION

One of the most effective ways to target your resume is to include a 'highlights' section just after your name and contact information. Headings for this section vary: 'Highlights,' 'Summary of Qualifications,' 'Achievements,' 'Professional Profile' and the list goes on. Regardless of what you label this section, it should include four to six key points that relate directly to the requirements of the position, demonstrate you are a strong candidate and help distinguish you from most other applicants.

Try to be specific. For example, rather than 'Strong leadership skills' say something like 'Over five years of progressively responsible experience leading groups.' Then make sure the employer is able to find in the rest of your resume information that substantiates what you've included in your highlights section.

What is the difference between a resume and curriculum vitae or CV?

The terms resume and CV are often used interchangeably. In North America, CV is generally the term used when referring to work in academia or research. The focus in terms of content is on the applicant's research interests and experiences, publications and academic presentations. As such, CVs tend to be much longer than resumes.

TIP4 CHECK OUT EXAMPLES – BUT DON'T COPY!

For novice resume and cover letter writers in particular, looking at examples can be very helpful. Many of the books we have available in our career resource libraries in SUB and HUB include sample resumes and cover letters. We've also developed several samples we distribute to students who participate in our Resume Working Groups and individual consultations. Looking at how others have done it can stimulate ideas about how to describe your experience and layout your resume, as well as sections and headings to use.

There is a risk, however, to looking at examples: the temptation to copy, which is never a good idea. We heard a story from an employer about two nearly identical resumes he received for a position he had posted at CAPS. He assumed that both applicants copied from the same example. Needless to say, neither was offered an interview! More importantly, however, is understanding your resume is a very personal document. 'Who you are' will not come through if you simply copy from someone else.

TIP5 PROOFREAD, PROOFREAD, PROOFREAD!

Many employers do a first read through of applications they receive for a position with the objective of screening people out. One of the surest ways of having your application end up on the 'no' pile is if it contains spelling,

grammatical or other types of errors. So if you are adapting a cover letter you've already written, double check that you've changed the position title and organization name. Make sure the name of both the organization and person to whom you are addressing the letter are spelled correctly – and have the proper salutation. Don't assume someone with a name like Kris, Terry or Jordon is a Ms. or a Mr.

You will likely spend a great deal of time writing and tweaking your resume and cover letter so you are probably not the best person to proofread the final copy. Most people who have read something over a few times will miss mistakes that jump out at the first-time reader. So find someone who is a good proofreader and offer to buy her or him a coffee in return for checking your resume and cover letter for errors. The investment will be well worth it.

OTHER WORK SEARCH TOOLS

In addition to your resume and cover letter, there are other items you might want to consider for your work search tools kit.

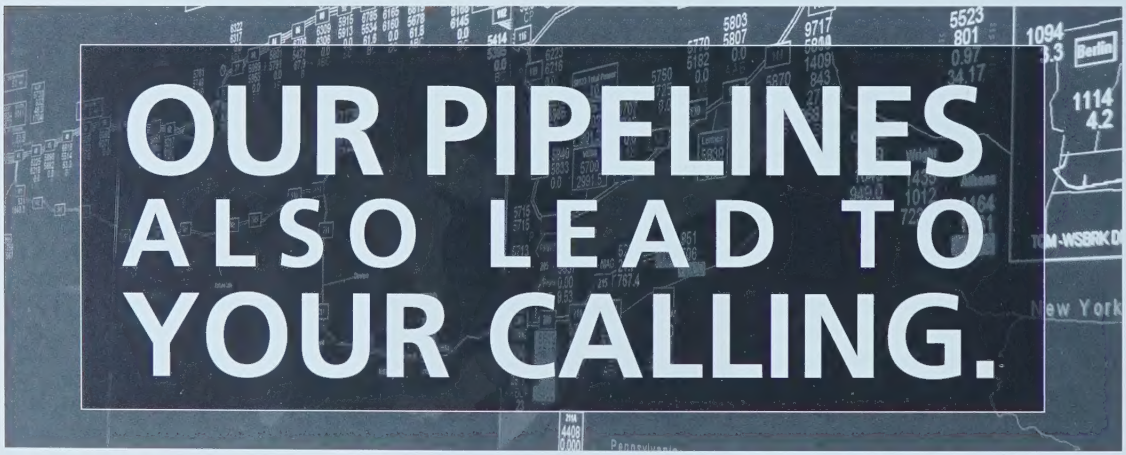
Have you ever been at a career fair or other event where you wanted to leave something with people you met? In these situations, handing out your resume isn't really appropriate or effective. A business card is an excellent alternative. Many people think business cards are only for people who are employed or own a business. They are also handy networking tools for people looking for work. In addition to your name, telephone number and email address, you can include your degree (obtained or in progress) and your work interests on your business card.

Making your own card doesn't have to be expensive. Most stationary stores carry sheets of cards you can run through a printer. CAPS also has business cards for U of A students, which you can pick up at our centres in SUB and HUB. We have a general card as well as specific ones for each of our career fairs.

Another work search tool you might want to consider is a portfolio. Traditionally, artists, designers, writers and others in creative professions have used portfolios to showcase their work. More recently, many school boards ask applicants for teaching positions to bring a portfolio to the interview.

Portfolios generally contain two types of documents: samples of your work and documents provided by someone else that speak to your achievements, skills, personal traits and the like. Examples of the latter could include certificates you've received for completing a project or course, reference letters, copies of your performance reviews for positions you've held and even thank you cards or notes you've received.

Like your resume and cover letter, your portfolio should be targeted to the position you are seeking. However, it is generally used in the interview rather than to apply for work. It provides you the opportunity not only to tell a potential employer why you are a strong candidate for a position but also to show why. More information on portfolios is available in our career resource libraries in SUB and HUB.



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Tuesday, September 14 - 4 p.m. to 5:20 p.m., 8917 HUB Mall
Tuesday, September 21 - 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., 8917 HUB Mall

Wednesday, September 29 - 9 a.m. to 10:20 a.m., 8917 HUB Mall
Wednesday, October 6 - 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., 8917 HUB Mall

Wednesday, October 27 - 12 p.m. to 1:20 p.m., HUB Mall
Wednesday, November 3 - 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., HUB Mal

Wednesday, November 17 - 4 p.m. to 5:20 p.m., 2-100 SUB
Wednesday, November 24 - 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., 2-100 SUB

$25/students. Pre-register at 2-100 SUB or 8917 HUB Mall or call 780-492-4291 or 780-248-1483.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA **CAPS:** Your U of A Career Centre

Rapid Resume Review

Sit down for a 10-minute Rapid Resume Review with a CAPS career advisor for tips on making your resume effective at presenting your strengths and skills in a succinct format.

Wednesday, September 15
11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 8917 HUB Mall

Tuesday, October 5
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 8917 HUB Mall

Tuesday, November 16
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 8917 HUB Mall

Free. Pre-registration not required.

Ask an Employer

About Career Fairs

Ashley Makowecky
HR Advisor with **AltaLink**, a Calgary-based company responsible for almost 60 percent of Alberta's electrical transmission requirements.

Lauren Bosch
HR Advisor, Early Career Develoment with **ConocoPhillips Canada**, one of the country's largest oil and natural gas production and exploration companies.

Stephanie MacLennan
with the **Government of Canada's Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS)**,the federal department responsible for protecting Canadians against threats to national security.

Kim Smith
Staffing Consultant with the **Government of Alberta's Corporate Human Resources**, the provincial department responsible for managing human resource functions for the entire Alberta government.

With employer registration and planning for our fall 2010 career fairs (Careers Day, Health Sciences Career Fair, Arts Career Fair and Pharmacy Career Fair) in full swing, we thought you might be interested in learning what employers expect from students at career fairs and what their recommendations are on how to prepare for these important networking opportunities. So we posed a series of questions to four recruiters:

How do you suggest students prepare for a career fair?

AltaLink: Check out which companies will be attending and read up on those you're interested in. Prepare questions you want to ask, and bring copies of your resume in case an employer requests one.

ConocoPhillips Canada: Find out what companies will be at the career fair so you can plan which booths you would like to visit. Visit their websites so you know a bit about what each one does and what they are all about. Visit the company job board so that you have questions prepared about specific positions that are posted.

Government of Alberta: Career fairs are great for students, whether they are in their first or last year of their program of study or any year in between. I would suggest that students prepare for a career fair by thinking about their reason for attending. For example, students that are early in their education may want to research the different types of careers applicable to their program of study and the different types of organizations that offer that type of work. Students in their final year of study may want to job search and network with employers to find out about specific job opportunities and what it's like to work for different organizations. In either case, preparing a list of questions will help students to capitalize on the wealth of information available and make the most of the career fair.

What impresses you about a student at a career fair?

AltaLink: Students who are knowledgeable about our company and come prepared with relevant questions. It's even more impressive when students have already applied to our summer student opportunities and come to introduce themselves and learn more about the company and industry first hand. And it's great when they show enthusiasm towards what they're taking in school, and the potential of working at AltaLink.

ConocoPhillips Canada: They ask questions, are dressed professionally, have done research on our company and exude confidence.

Government of Alberta: Students who are friendly, polite and demonstrate an interest in learning about potential career opportunities and the organization make a good impression at a career fair.

Does it really matter to you how students dress at a career fair?

AltaLink: I believe dressing appropriately is important because you want to make a good first impression. Something as simple as dressing suitably may signal to an employer that you are serious and genuinely interested in finding a job and learning more about their organization. A suit and tie may be excessive, but even just a dress shirt makes a statement.

ConocoPhillips Canada: Yes, you need to dress the part of a business professional because image and first impressions are important.

Government of Alberta: It doesn't really matter to the representatives at our booth how the students dress – clothes that would be appropriate for classes would be appropriate for a career fair.

Government of Canada, CSIS: We do not care how students dress at a career fair as we feel the fair provides us with the opportunity to discuss the organization with students.

What is your biggest turnoff from students at a fair:

AltaLink: Impatient students. At our booth we will talk to all students interested in speaking with us and aim to answer all their questions. However, during peak periods this requires extra cooperation and patience from students.

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The Alberta Institute of Agrologists is a professional regulatory body working to ensure that the practice of Agrology is conducted with integrity in a competent and ethical manner. The Agrology Profession Act in Alberta requires that all who practice Agrology within the province are members of this peer-regulated Institute.

Contact the Institute to become an Agrologist in Training:

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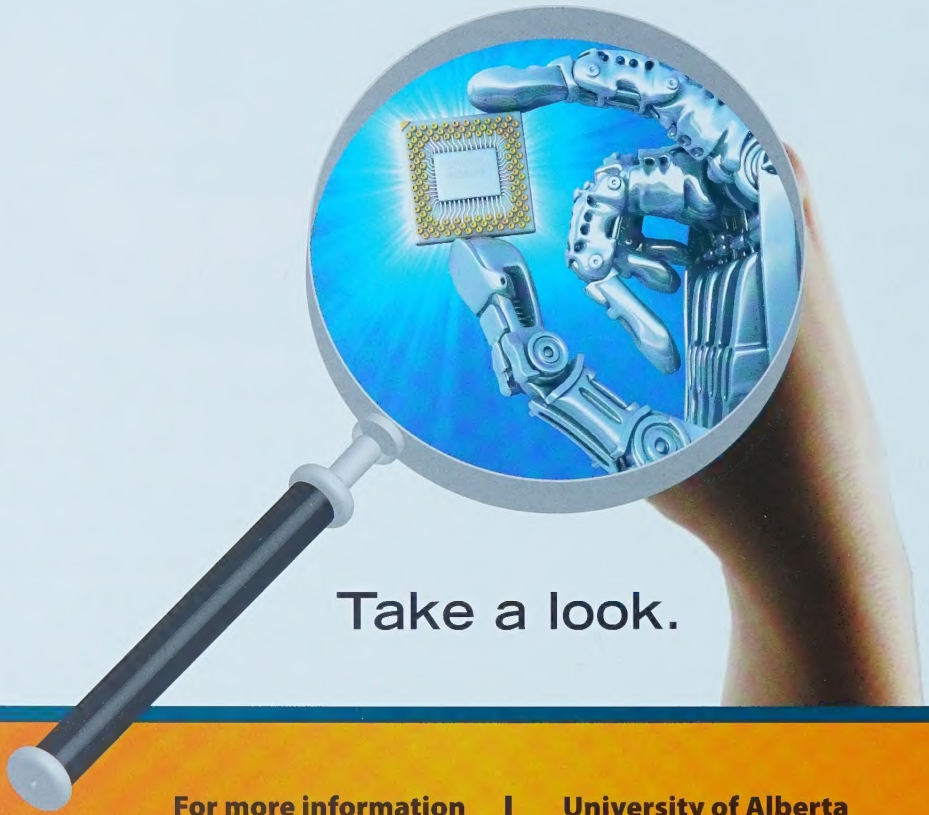

Take a look.

For more information
visit our booth on
Careers Day or check out
our information session at:

University of Alberta
Wednesday, September 29,2010
5:00 - 6:30pm
ETLC Room 1-007

pason.com/careers

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Using RSS while searching for work

RSS (Really Simple Syndication) is a way for websites that change their content frequently to alert users quickly and easily of any updates and to draw users back to a page or service when new content is released. Many newspapers, blogs, podcasts, and yes, job postings databases, use RSS to syndicate new information for users.

About RSS feeds

If you use Firefox, Explorer, Chrome or Opera, the browser will alert you that the page you are visiting has a feed by displaying in the address bar an orange box with white radio waves. When you click on this box, your browser will ask you how you want to subscribe to the feed. There are several options:

- Most browsers will let you store an RSS feed like a bookmark on your browser. You just have to hover over the feed title in your RSS feeds to get a listing of updated feeds.
- You can also use a reader, like Bloglines or Google Reader, to subscribe to feeds. You will have to remember to sign in to these services which, un-like your browser bookmarks, are accessible from any computer and read the feeds from your personalized page. These services will also suggest other relevant feeds based on your subscriptions.
- You can also read feeds in Microsoft Outlook if you have this program on your computer. Unlike the reader option, you need access to your own computer to get your feeds.

Who uses RSS feeds?

Several vertical search engines, such as Indeed, WowJobs, SimplyHired and Eluta, allow you to sign up to receive job alerts via RSS feed. To get a feed, you need to run a job posting search on their search engine and then click on the RSS icon to get the feed. There are two main advantages to this. First, the search engine will automatically alert you to new job postings that match your search terms so you don't have to remember to visit the site. Second, you don't have to give the service your email to get alerts.

Some job posting services, such as Media Jobs Canada or Jobbank.ca, will also group their job postings (e.g. postings for public relations or engineering) into one feed, and you can just subscribe to the job category. Again, you can protect your email address and centralize all of your feeds from your email, browser or reader in one location.

Employer Information Sessions

Attending Employer Information Sessions is an excellent way to learn about career and employment opportunities in your area(s) of interest with your employer of choice. Please note, these are not the only Employer Information Session CAPS is offering this fall. To view a complete list of Employer Information Sessions, check CAPS website.

Thursday, September 16

Cenovus Energy
5 to 6:30 p.m.
E1-017, ETLC
Target Group(s): Chemical, Civil, Electrical, Mechanical and Petroleum Engineering students.

Tuesday, September 21

Imperial Oil/ExxonMobil Canada
5 to 6:30 p.m.
Myer Horowitz Theatre, SUB
Target Group(s): Arts (Economics), Business (Finance, HR, MBA, MIS, Marketing), Engineering (all disciplines) and Sciences (Computing Science, Geo-Sciences).

Wednesday, September 22

Shell Canada Ltd
5 to 6:30 p.m.
E1-007 ETLC
Open to Engineering students - all disciplines

Nexen Inc.
7 to 8:30 p.m.
Myer Horowitz Theatre, 2nd floor SUB
Open to Engineering, Geology, Geophysics, Business (Marketing, Accounting & Finance)

Thursday, September 23

Shell Canada Ltd
12 to 3 p.m. (Drop-in)
2-725 SUB
Open to all Aboriginal students/alumni

5 to 6:30 p.m.
4-02 SUB
Open to Geology/Geophysics students

7 to 8:30 p.m.
4-02 SUB
Open to Business students

Tuesday, September 28

Accenture
5 to 6:30 p.m.
4-02 SUB
Target Group(s): Arts (Economics), Business (Accounting, Finance, MIS, Operations) Engineering (Chemical, Computer & Electrical), Sciences (Computing Science, Math).

Suncor Energy Inc.
5 to 6:30 p.m.
E1-013 ETLC
Open to all Engineering students/alumni

Wednesday, September 29

Bank of Canada
5 to 6:30 p.m.
4-02 SUB
Target Group(s): Undergraduate and Graduate (MA/MBA/PhD) students in Economics and Finance.

Pason Systems Corporation
5 to 6:30 p.m.
E1-007, ETLC
Target: Students in Computing Science and Computer/Software/Electrical Engineering

Thursday, September 30

Frito Lay/PepsiCo Canada
5 to 6:30 p.m.
4-02 SUB
Open to Business (Marketing, Operations/ Distribution) and Mechanical Engineering students

Wednesday, October 13

Schlumberger
5 to 6:30 p.m.
4-02 SUB
Target Group(s): Masters and PhD students in Engineering (Chemical, Electrical, Mechanical, Petroleum), Geology, Geophysics and Computing Sciences.

Thursday, October 21

University of Toronto Master of Management & Professional Accounting (MMPA)
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
4-02 SUB
Target Group(s): Non-business undergraduates interested in pursuing a career in professional accounting

Monday, November 8

Two Sigma Investments
5 to 6:30 p.m.
1-013, ETLC
Target: Computing Science students, both undergraduate and graduate.

Thursday, January 27

University of Toronto Master of Management & Professional Accounting (MMPA)
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
4-02 SUB
Target Group(s): Non-business undergraduates interested in pursuing a career in professional accounting.

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Becoming an urban planner

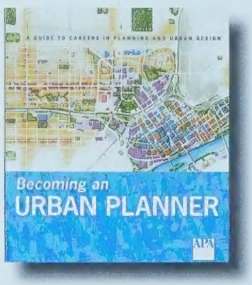
A guide to careers in planning and urban design

by Michael Bayer, Nancy Frank and Jason Valerius

John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2010 Hoboken, NJ

Who creates bike lanes, plans transit routes and tells developers where to put the mail boxes in new housing developments? Who plans the placement of police stations, plazas and pizzerias? Urban planners do.

Becoming an Urban Planner describes the history of urban planning as a profession in the United States and explains what planners currently do in government, for non-profits and as consultants. The book also explains the process of becoming an urban planner and the many different educational backgrounds that contribute to a professional education in this field. Urban planners interviewed for this book include sociologists, economists, political scientists, engineers, lawyers, architects and environmental scientists who have become planners.



The interviews with professional planners make up the majority of the book. The authors have done a good job of selecting a wide range of planners, from generalists to many of the subspecialists, such as historic preservation planners and transportation planners, to talk about their career paths. The planners describe necessary skills—most reiterating the need for public speaking and the ability to read and process information efficiently—and what they like best and least about their jobs. This information will help readers narrow their choices down to the subspecialty they would like to pursue in planning, though most of the interviewees seem to agree that a generalist background and then a subspecialty will help with finding initial employment in the field.

Becoming an Urban Planner is part of a series of books from Wiley written by professionals from related fields. Other titles in the series include, *Becoming an Architect, Becoming a Graphic Designer, Becoming a Digital Designer* and *Becoming a Product Designer.*

This book is available for use in the HUB Career Centre while the other titles in this series are available in the CAPS Career Resource Centre in SUB.

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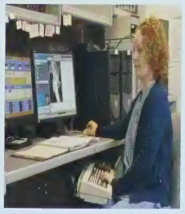
Become a Radiation Therapist

The Alberta Health Services – Cancer Care is expanding to include Radiation services in Lethbridge, Red Deer and Grande Prairie. When open, these new Radiation Therapy Sites will result in the creation of new Radiation Therapist positions in addition to current opportunities in Calgary and Edmonton. The Alberta School of Radiation Therapy is looking for mature and compassionate individuals with exceptional interpersonal skills to join us in

Creating a Cancer Free Future!



The Alberta School of Radiation Therapy offers a 28 month education program, which includes didactic and clinical components. Upon successful completion of the program you will have the opportunity to plan radiation treatments, calculate radiation doses, and deliver radiation treatments while providing empathy, assessments and education to the patient with cancer.

To speak to someone about this educational opportunity, please contact the Alberta School of Radiation Therapy at 780-643-4641 or visit the website at **www.AlbertaRTSchool.jobs** for further program information.

Alberta Health Services *Cancer Care*

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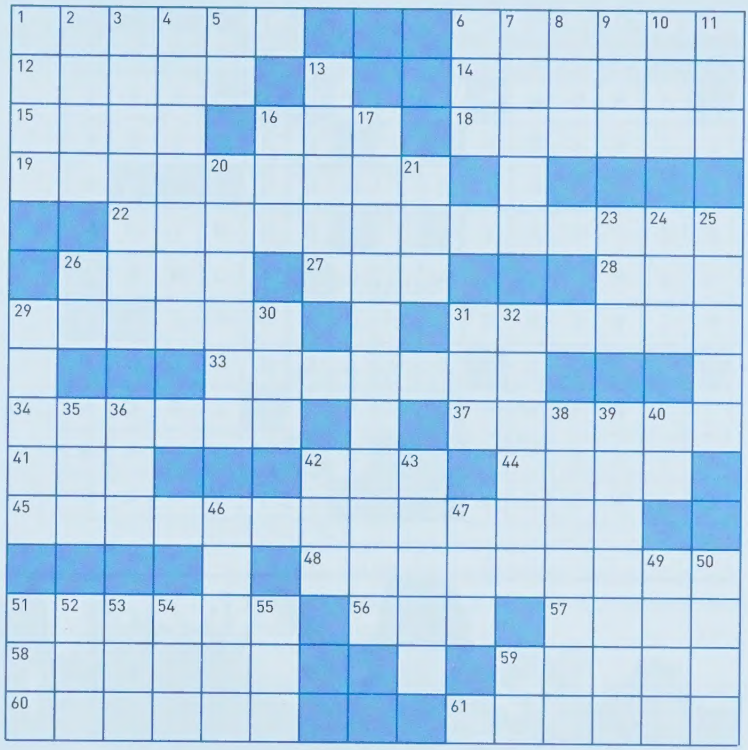
Crossword Puzzle



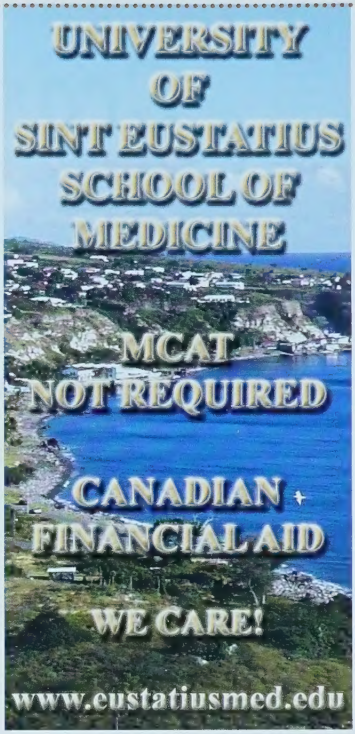
ACROSS

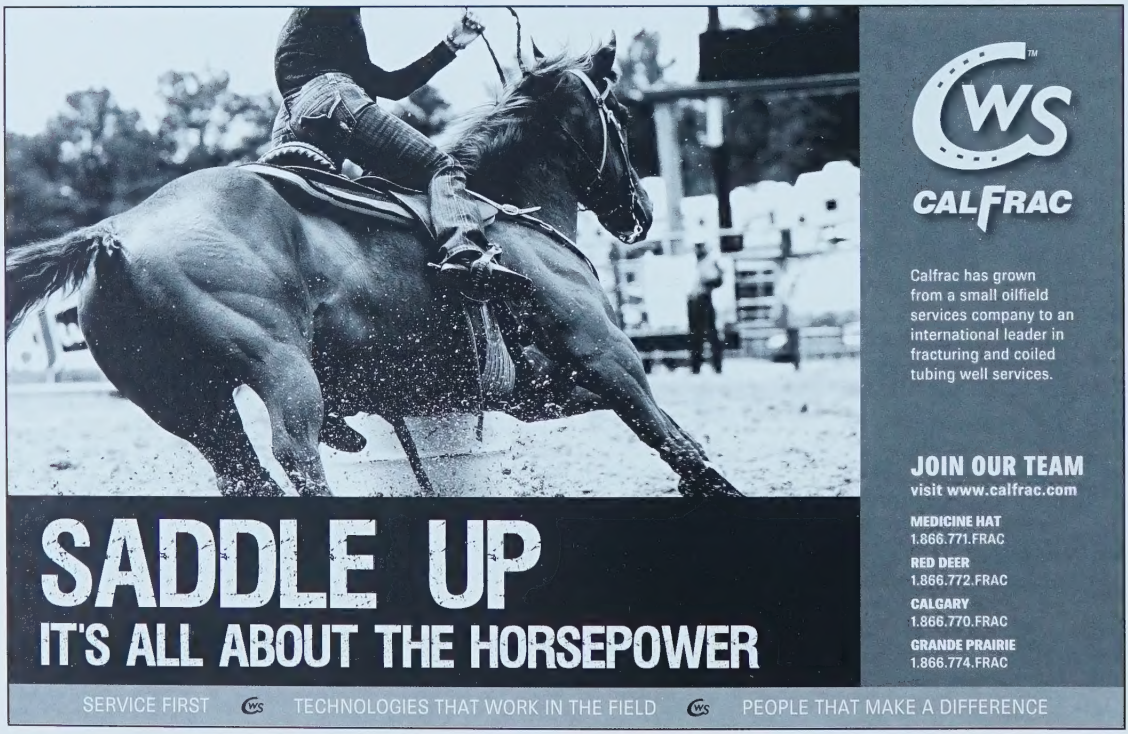
1. CAPS: Your U of A ____ Centre
6. Hire
12. Accompany, with 'go'
14. Turkey's neck, for one
15. Listened to the bears
16. Auto grp.
18. Avoids
19. Plate for pictures
22. Some business owners
26. Talk like a pirate
27. Van Gogh's love offering
28. Type of race
29. Checked, with 'out'
31. Bread winner
33. Where politicians run?
34. Dull
37. 76 on the periodic table
41. ____ Times (Canadian labour magazine)
42. Provincial grp for some ALES grads
44. Electrically charged particles
45. Freud and Fromm, for example
48. Play
51. Job for a law graduate
56. Pose for a picture
57. Killer whale
58. Stable keeper
59. Essential oil
60. Famous street artist
61. Twin goddess of beauty and illusion

DOWN

1. Type of payment
2. Burn soother
3. Rockers counterpart
4. Some are happy
5. List of items, briefly
6. She may be sheared
7. Expert
8. School assoc.
9. Corp.
10. Cheer in Barcelona
11. Affirmative
13. Cheque casher
16. Measure of success for online advertising, briefly
17. Ghostly figures
20. The ____ (2001 thriller)
21. Misstep
23. Ornamental vase
24. Former premier turned MP, Bob ____
25. Play the guitar
26. Alberta's distance university, for short
29. Single mast sailing vessel
30. Local improv group, ___-NASTY
31. Teamwork deterrent, often
32. Help
35. Commuter's option
36. Sample
38. Tropical birds
39. Additions
40. Not them
42. Pub offering
43. Once more
46. Washes, with 'down'
47. Computer tools, briefly
49. US college and university sports org.
50. Sailors
51. Task
52. Canada's largest trading partner
53. ____ to sender, briefly
54. Type
55. Test
59. Yes vote

C	A	R	E	E	R	■	■	■	E	M	P	L	O	Y
A	L	O	N	G	■	P	■	■	W	A	T	T	L	E
S	O	L	D	■	C	A	A	■	E	V	A	D	E	S
H	E	L	I	O	T	Y	P	E	■	E	■	■	■	■
■	■	E	N	T	R	E	P	R	E	N	E	U	R	S
■	A	R	G	H	■	E	A	R	■	■	■	R	A	T
S	U	S	S	E	D	■	R	■	E	A	R	N	E	R
L	■	■	■	R	I	D	I	N	G	S	■	■	■	U
O	B	T	U	S	E	■	T	■	O	S	M	I	U	M
O	U	R	■	■	■	A	I	A	■	I	O	N	S	■
P	S	Y	C	H	O	L	O	G	I	S	T	S	■	■
■	■	■	■	O	■	E	N	A	C	T	M	E	N	T
J	U	R	I	S	T	■	S	I	T	■	O	R	C	A
O	S	T	L	E	R	■	■	N	■	A	T	T	A	R
B	A	N	K	S	Y	■	■	■	L	Y	S	S	A	S





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On-line applications, and more information are available starting in **August 2010** at:

www.BeNorth.ca

Digital and paper applications must be received **on or before** October 15, 2010.

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The NADC Bursary Program offers return service bursaries of **$6,000 to $12,000** per year for **3rd and 4th year students**. *(In some programs these amounts may be doubled.)*

These bursaries are meant to encourage students to train for jobs that are in demand in northern Alberta.

Find out more about which programs are funded and how to apply at:

www.BeNorth.ca

The application deadline for the 2011-2012 year is May 15, 2011.

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Alberta

INTERVIEWS

ACE YOUR INTERVIEW

Learn what employers are looking for in an interview from the interviewers themselves! Find out what you can do to prepare, the kinds of interview questions they ask and what to expect in an interview.

Acing the Engineering Interview
Thursday, September 16
2 to 4 p.m. 4-02 SUB

Acing the Health Care Interview
Tuesday, October 26
2 to 4 p.m. 4-02 SUB

$25/students. Pre-register at 2-100 SUB or 8917 HUB or call 780-492-4291 or 780-248-1483.

101 Great Answers to the Toughest Interview Questions The author uses a simple "red light" (bad answer) and "green light" (good answer) approach to explain how to respond to job interview questions. This book has an excellent and succinct explanation for interview preparation.

301 Smart Answers to Tough Interview Questions From the difficult to the outright inappropriate, the author explains how to deal with tough questions such as, "What were you doing on the day your company filed for bankruptcy?" This is an excellent resource for the so-called stress interview.

Competency-Based Interviews Competency-based interviews have developed from behavior descriptive interviews. In a behavior descriptive interview, the interviewer asks the candidate to comment on past actions related to real life scenarios. The competency-based interview uses similar questions, but evaluation methods are more detailed. This book explains what interviewers expect when using this type of interview.

Interview Rehearsal Book: Seven Steps to Job-Winning Interviews Using Acting Skills Written for the extremely interview anxious person, this book, by two professional actors, coaches the reader on techniques for controlling nervousness and on how to listen to the interviewer.

Sweaty Palms: The Neglected Art of Being Interviewed Currently in its fourth edition, this classic job interview preparation guide thoroughly explains how to behave at an interview and why employers ask certain questions.

Top Five Ways to Pay Off My Student Loan

5. Collect empties from campus bar
4. Participate in medical experiments
3. Start a pyramid scheme!?!
2. Move back home with Mom & Dad :(
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Government of Canada, Department of Finance
Government of Canada, Health Canada - Edmonton
Government of Canada, Library of Parliament
Government of Canada, National Energy Board
Government of Canada, Natural Resources Canada - Edmonton
Government of Canada, Parks Canada Agency - Elk Island National Park
Government of Canada, Parks Canada Agency - Waterton
Government of Canada, Public Service Commission - Edmonton
Government of Canada, Senate of Canada Page Program
Government of Canada, Service Canada Centre For Youth (SCCY)
Government of the Northwest Territories
Graham Group Ltd.
Grande Prairie Public School District #2357
Grande Prairie Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 28
Grande Yellowhead Public School Division No. 77
Grant Thornton LLP
Grasslands Recruitment Specialists
Gravity Pope Co. Ltd.
Greater Edmonton Foundation (GEF): Housing for Seniors
Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools
Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29
Great-West Life - Grande Prairie
Great-West Life Assurance Company - Winnipeg
Green Clean Squad
Green Oasis Services North Inc.
Green Side Up Inc.
Greenfield School Age Day Care Association
Greenview, Municipal District of
Group Promo Staff
Guillevin International Co. - Edmonton
Halliburton Canada - Calgary
Har-De Agri Services
Hazco Environmental Services Ltd.
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Alberta, NWT & Nunavut - Calgary
Hemisphere GPS
Hess Education Canada
Hexion Specialty Chemicals
High Prairie School Division #48
Hinton & District Chamber of Commerce
Holy Family Catholic Regional Division #37
Holyrood After School Care Society
Home Depot - 50th Street
Home-Within-A-Home-Society of Edmonton
Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office
Horizon School Division No. 67
Hudson's Bay Company - Zellers/The Bay Pharmacy
IATS - Credit Card Processor
IBM Canada Limited
ICMS, Inc.
Impact Teachers
Imperial Tobacco Canada
InField Marketing Group
Infratech Corporation
Innovative Intervention Services
Inside Education - Edmonton
Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta
Insurance Bureau of Canada
Intact Insurance - Calgary
Intec Billing Canada - Edmonton
Intelliwave Technologies
International Development Research Centre
International Forest Products Ltd.
International School of Macao
Intuit - USA
Inventa Sales & Promotions - Vancouver
Investors Group Financial Services - Sherwood Park
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Jasper Place Child & Family Resource Centre
JEI Learning Centre - Edmonton Branch
Jennings Capital Inc.
John Deere Reman - Edmonton
Junior League of Edmonton
JV Driver
JW Research Ltd - Edmonton
KAC ECS School
Kasota East Camp
Kelly Services - Edmonton
Kennedy Personnel Solutions Inc.
Key Connections Consulting Inc.
Kiewit - Edmonton
Kiewit Energy Canada Corp. - Calgary
KJA Consultants Inc. - Calgary
KJA Consultants Inc. - Edmonton
Kraft Canada - Ontario
Lafarge Canada Inc. - Surrey
Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) - Bonnyville
Lakeland Catholic School District No. 150
Land Stewardship Centre of Canada
Lansdowne Child Care & Family Centre
Lantic Inc.
LaPrairie Group
LASIK MD
Layfield Group Limited
Ledcor CMI
Leduc County
Leduc County, Parks and Recreation
Lee Specialties Ltd.
Legal Resource Centre
Leger Marketing
Lifesaving Society
Lincoln Electric Company of Canada
Lionhead Engineering, A CCS Company
Lloydminster Public School Division
Loblaw Companies Ltd. - Brampton, ON
London Drugs - Edmonton
Lone Pine Publishing
Louis Dreyfus Canada Ltd.
Mainstream Aquatics Ltd.
Make a Future - Careers in BC Education
Make A Wish Northern Alberta
MakLoc Buildings Inc.
Management Development Program (MDP)
Maple Leaf Consumer Foods (Fresh Poultry) - Edmonton
Maple Reinders Inc.
Marketlogix Inc
Marksmen Vegetation Management Inc.
Matco Transportation Systems
Matrikon Inc.
Matrix Solutions Inc.
Mattamy Homes Limited
McDonald Family
McKee After School Program
McMan Youth, Family & Community Services Association - Innisfail
MediaMatch West Communications Inc.
Medicine Hat College
Medicine Hat School District No. 76
Medicine Shoppe Canada Inc. - 103 Ave Location
Meltwater News
Metro Continuing Education
Meyers Norris Penny - Red Deer
Mikes Outfitting
Mill Woods Family Resource Centre
Millar Western Forest Products Ltd. - Edmonton
Millennium EMS Solutions Ltd.
Miyo Wahkohtowin Education Authority
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Nason Contracting Group Ltd.
Nature Conservancy of Canada, Alberta Region
Nexen Inc.
Nicola Family Therapy
NorQuest College
North American Construction Group
North Battleford Golf and Country Club
North Okanagan-Shuswap School District No. 83
Northern Alberta Sleep Clinic
Northern Gateway Regional Division No. 10
Northern Health Authority - Corporate Office
Northern Lights School Division #69 (Alberta)
Northern Lights School Division No. 113 (Saskatchewan)
Northland School Division No. 61
NOV - National Oilwell Varco - Corporate
Novelis Global Technology Centre
O'Connor Associates Environmental Inc. - Calgary
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Ostrem Chemical Co. Ltd.
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Parkland School Division No. 70
Passport Capital, LLC
Peace River School Division No. 10
Pearson Canada
Pembina Hills Regional Division No. 7
Peoples Drug Mart - Delta, BC
PepsiCo Beverages Canada
PharmaSave Drugs Western Ltd.
Pioneer Hi-Bred Limited - A DuPont Company
Pioneer Hi-Bred Production Ltd. - Edmonton
Plainsman Mfg. Inc.
Platinum Edge Recruitment Inc.
Portage College
PotashCorp - Rocanville, SK
Prairie Centre Credit Union
Prairie Rose School Division
Praxair Canada Inc. - Edmonton Office
Priddis Greens Golf and Country Club
priMED Medical Products Inc.
Productions Plus Talent Management Agency
Professional Association of Residents of Alberta
Project Search Group
Protocol Education
Pure Vision Inc.
Pyramid Process Fabricators
Quality Move Management
Quality Program Aide Coordination Services
Quantiam Technologies Inc.
Quia Corporation
Rachel Notley, MLA, Edmonton-Strathcona
RBC Financial Group
Recycling Council of Alberta
Red Deer Catholic Regional Division #39
Red Deer College
Red Deer Public School District No. 104
Regroupement artistique francophone de l'Alberta
Remedy Drug Store Company
Research In Motion
Residential Aide Placement Service
Rexall Family of Pharmacies - Mississauga
Reynolds and Reynolds (Canada) Ltd.
Riders Connection Motorsports & RV
Rio Tinto Services Limited
Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers
Rite Aid Corporation
RiverWatch - Edmonton
Rocky View School Division No. 41
Ronald McDonald House
Ross Smith Capital Investment Fund
RWDI AIR Inc.
Sabatini Earth Technologies Inc.
Saddle Hills County
Sale' Farms
Sandvine Inc.
Sanjel Corporation - Calgary
Saskatoon Public School Division No. 13
SaskPower
Schlumberger - Sugar Land, TX
Schmidt Realty Group Inc
Scholar's Choice
School District No. 22 (Vernon)
School District No. 60 (Peace River North) - Fort St. John, B.C.
Scotiabank - Toronto
Sealy Canada Ltd. - Scarborough
SeisWare International Inc.
Select Ready Foods Inc.
Servus Credit Union
Shaw Communications
Shaw Conference Centre
Shell Canada Limited
Sherritt Coal
Sherritt International
Shoppers Drug Mart
Sierra Systems
Siksika Board of Education
Sintra Engineering Inc.
SIRVA Canada LP
SKILLS Society
SMART Technologies Inc.
Smoky Applied Research & Demonstration Association (SARDA)
Smoky Lake County
Snap Fitness Sherwood Park
Sobeys Pharmacy Group - Dartmouth, NS
Sobeys West - Human Resources
Sphere Environmental
Sprague-Rosser Contracting
St. Albert Protestant Schools
St. Paul Education Regional Division No. 1
St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Separate Regional Division #38
Stantec Consulting Ltd. - Edmonton
Stewart Weir & Co. Ltd.
Stoller Enterprises Ltd.
Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation
Strathcona County
StreamOn
Stuart Olson Construction
Student Suds Powerwashing
Student Works Painting Corporation
Sturgeon County
Sturgeon School Division
Summerside Residents' Association
Suncor Energy Inc.
Sunshine Oilsands Ltd.
Superb Curb
SureHire Inc.
SweetCroft Engineering Consultants Ltd.
Sylvan Learning Centre
Symbiotech Research Inc.
Syncrude Canada Limited
Talisman Energy Inc.
TD Bank Financial Group - Toronto
TD Canada Trust - City Centre East
Tec de Monterrey High School
Technology Strategies Group Inc.
Teck Resources Limited
tekmar Controls Ltd.
TELUS World of Science
Terralog Technologies Inc.
The Alberta Association of Architects
The Bennett Centre
The Bhutan Canada Foundation
The Brick Warehouse Corporation
The Campus Tower Suite Hotel
The Canadian Wheat Board
The Chimo Animal Assisted Therapy Project
The Citadel Theatre
The Co-operators
The Drumheller & District Chamber of Commerce
The Edmonton Power Historical Foundation
The Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton
The English Language Training College

THANK YOU

The Good Samaritan Society
The Multicultural Heritage Centre
The Princeton Review
The Underwear Affair
The Yonas Family
Thermal Systems KWC Ltd.
Thompson Nicola Family Resource Society
Three Little Pigs Publishing Ltd
Thrifty Foods
Total Eyes Optometry - Meadowlark
TransAlta Tri Leisure Centre
TransCanada - Calgary
Transcend Coffee
TTG Systems Incorporated
Tucker Wireline Services Canada Inc. - Calgary
U of A, Addiction & Mental Health Research Laboratory
U of A, Ancillary Services
U of A, Biosciences Animal Service
U of A, Campus Food Bank
U of A, Campus Saint-Jean
U of A, Campus Saint-Jean TLEF Sciences
U of A, CAPS: Your U of A Career Centre
U of A, Centre for Neuroscience
U of A, Centre for Teaching and Learning
U of A, Centre for Writers
U of A, Child Study Centre
U of A, Community Service-Learning (CSL)
U of A, Deparment of Agricultural Food & Nutritional Science
U of A, Department of Art & Design
U of A, Department of Biological Sciences
U of A, Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering
U of A, Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering (Xu Oil Sands Group)
U of A, Department of Chemistry
U of A, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
U of A, Department of Computing Science
U of A, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
U of A, Department of Mechanical Engineering
U of A, Department of Physics
U of A, Department of Public Health Sciences
U of A, Department of Renewable Resources
U of A, Devonian Botanic Garden
U of A, Discover E Engineering & Science Camps
U of A, Ellerslie Research Station
U of A, Environmental Health & Safety
U of A, Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences
U of A, Faculty of Augustana
U of A, Faculty of Engineering - Discover E Engineering & Science Camps
U of A, Faculty of Engineering - Office of the Dean
U of A, Faculty of Extension (English Language Program)
U of A, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry
U of A, Faculty of Nursing
U of A, Faculty of Nursing - Knowledge Utilization Studies Program (KUSP)
U of A, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
U of A, Faculty of Physical Education & Recreation
U of A, Financial Services
U of A, Graduate Students' Association
U of A, Libraries
U of A, Low-level Mercury Analytical Laboratory
U of A, Meanook Biological Research Station
U of A, Museums and Collections Services
U of A, Office of the Registrar and Student Awards
U of A, ONECard Office
U of A, Population Research Lab
U of A, School of Business
U of A, Student Financial Aid Information Centre (SFAIC)
U of A, Students' Union
U of A, University Health Centre, Peer Health Educators
U of A, WISEST
Ukrainian Museum of Canada, Alberta Branch
Ukrainian Shumka Dancers
UMmedia.ca
United Parcel Service (UPS) - Edmonton
University Affiliated Childcare Centres
University First Class Painters
University of Alberta International
University of Alberta International - Relations and Recruitment
University of British Columbia, Sauder School Business - Diploma in Accounting Program
University of Calgary, Faculty of Social Work - Edmonton
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill - Nutrition Research Institute
University of Northern British Columbia
University of Toronto Mississauga, Master of Management of Innovation (MMI)
Urban Systems Ltd. - Kamloops
UTours Inc.
Value Drug Mart Associates Ltd.
Value Invest
Varscona & The Met Hotel
Vecima Networks Inc.
Vector Marketing Canada
Vimark Solutions
Viterra - Regina
Viterra Inc. - Fort Saskatchewan
Voice Construction Ltd.
Wajax Industries Limited
Wal-Mart Pharmacy
Warrior Manufacturing
Waterford of Summerlea
Wave Control Systems ltd.
Weatherford Canada Partnership - Edmonton
Wee Book Inn Enterprises, Ltd.
Weidner Investment Services
Weir Power & Industrial
Wenzel Downhole Tools Ltd.
West Central Forage Association
West Country Oilfield Services
West Edmonton Mall
Westbrook Law Office
Westeel
Western States Chiropractic College
Westgroup Solutions
Weyerhaeuser - Drayton Valley
Wild Rose Consulting, Inc.
Willowglen Systems Inc.
Windon Industries Ltd.
Windsor Park After School Care
Workers' Compensation Board - AB
World Health
World Vision Canada
WorleyParsons Canada
WOW! Factor Desserts
Yellowhead County - Edson
Yelp Inc.
YMCA - Bill Rees YMCA
YMCA Edmonton
YMCA Edmonton Child Care
YMCA of Edmonton - Bill Rees Community Programs
Ziest Inc.

JOB SHADOW WEEK

For a few days during Reading Week, you can shadow a professional at their workplace to see what their job is actually like.

Wednesday, November 24 from 12:05 to 12:50 p.m., 2-100 SUB
Tuesday, November 30 from 12:35 to 1:20 p.m., 8917 HUB Mall
Tuesday, January 11 from 12:35 to 1:20 p.m., 2-100 SUB

Application Available on CAPS website: Thursday, January 13
Application Due: Wednesday, January 26

Check CAPS website for details.

Teach English to Children in Japan!

With over 70 branch schools, Amity has been the leading English conversation educator for children in Japan for more than a decade. We offer exciting opportunities to enthusiastic, professional, native English speakers who enjoy working with children.

Requirements:
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- Teaching experience and Japanese language ability helpful but not necessary

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- Health coverage and pension system
- Furnished apartment
- 3 weeks paid vacation
- Completion bonus
- Return airfare
- Opportunities for advancement

Interview NOW in Toronto

To apply, submit the following:
- Current resume
- 1-page essay (no less than 500 words) titled, "Why I Want to Teach Children and Live in Japan"

Apply online at: http://www.amityteachers.com

health sciences and pharmacy

CAREER FAIR 10

Health Sciences Career Fair
Meet with employers
in the health care field
Saturday, September 25
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Dinwoodie Lounge,
2-000 SUB

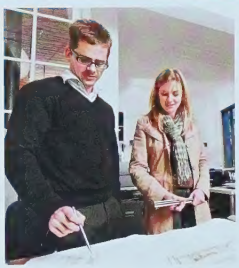
Pharmacy Career Fair
Meet with employers
in the pharmacy field
Friday, November 19
2 to 5 p.m.
Dinwoodie Lounge,
2-000 SUB

CAPS
Your U of A Career Centre

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA **CAPS:** Your U of A Career Centre

Meet with over 200 employers

Careers Day 2010



Wednesday, September 22

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Butterdome
University of Alberta

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www.caps.ualberta.ca

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- A FREE ADULT TICKET to 1 designated game.
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GOLDEN BEARS FOOTBALL

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES

Sep 4	1:00 PM	@ British Columbia
Sep 11	2:00 PM	@ Manitoba
Sat Sep 18	**1:00 PM**	**Calgary**
Fri Sep 24	**7:00 PM**	**Saskatchewan**
Oct 2	7:00 PM	@ Regina
Sat Oct 16	**1:00 PM**	**British Columbia**
Sat Oct 23	**1:00 PM**	**Manitoba**
Oct 30	1:00 PM	@ Calgary

CANADA WEST PLAYOFFS

Nov 6	Semi-Finals
Nov 13	Hardy Cup

CIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Nov 20	Mitchell Bowl @ CW
Nov 27	Vanier Cup @ Laval (Quebec City)

HOME GAME VENUES

Golden Bears and Pandas Hockey play at Clare Drake Arena 88 Ave. & 115 St.

Football, Soccer, Tennis, Field Hockey & Curling play at Saville Centre / Foote Field 67 Ave. & 114 St.

Basketball and Volleyball play at U of A Main Gym 87 Ave. & 114 St.

Wrestling, Track and Field & Swimming compete at U of A Pavilion / Van Vliet Centre 87 Ave. & 114 St.

Rugby plays at Strathcona Druids Club 524 A Highway 14 X Sherwood Park, Alberta

For tickets and information call **780-492-BEAR (2327)**
www.bears.ualberta.ca
www.pandas.ualberta.ca

GOLDEN BEARS HOCKEY

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES

Fri Oct 1	**7:30 PM**	**Calgary**
Sat Oct 2	**7:30 PM**	**Calgary**
Oct 15 - 16	7:00 PM	@ UBC
Fri Oct 22	**7:30 PM**	**Lethbridge**
Sat Oct 23	**7:30 PM**	**Lethbridge**
Oct 29	7:00 PM	@ Calgary
Sat Oct 30	**7:30 PM**	**Calgary**
Nov 12 - 13	7:00 PM	@ Regina
Fri Nov 19	**7:30 PM**	**Saskatchewan**
Sat Nov 20	**7:30 PM**	**Saskatchewan**
Nov 26 - 27	7:00 PM	Manitoba
Fri Jan 7	**7:30 PM**	**British Columbia**
Sat Jan 8	**7:30 PM**	**British Columbia**
Jan 14 - 15	7:00 PM	@ Lethbridge
Fri Jan 21	**7:30 PM**	**Calgary**
Jan 22	7:00 PM	Calgary
Fri Feb 4	**7:30 PM**	**Regina**
Sat Feb 5	**7:30 PM**	**Regina**
Feb 11 - 12	7:00 PM	@ Saskatchewan
Fri Feb 18	**7:30 PM**	**Manitoba**
Sat Feb 19	**7:30 PM**	**Manitoba**
Feb 25 - 26	7:00 PM	@ British Columbia

CANADA WEST PLAYOFFS

Mar 4 - 6	Semi-Finals
Mar 11 - 13	Finals

CIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mar 24 - 27	University Cup @ UNB (Fredericton)

NON CONFERENCE GAMES / TOURNAMENTS

Fri Sep 17	**7:00 PM**	**New Brunswick**
Sep 24 - 25	**3 & 7 PM**	**Brick Invitational**

PANDAS HOCKEY

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES

Oct 8 - 9	7:00 PM	@ Manitoba
Fri Oct 15	**7:00 PM**	**British Columbia**
Sat Oct 16	**7:00 PM**	**British Columbia**
Oct 22 - 23	7:00 PM	@ Lethbridge
Fri Oct 29	**7:00 PM**	**Calgary**
Sat Oct 30	7:30 PM	@ Calgary
Fri Nov 12	**7:00 PM**	**Regina**
Sat Nov 13	**7:00 PM**	**Regina**
Nov 19 - 20	7:00 PM	@ Saskachewan
Fri Nov 26	**7:00 PM**	**Manitoba**
Sat Nov 27	**7:00 PM**	**Manitoba**
Jan 7 - 8	7:00 PM	@ British Columbia
Fri Jan 14	**7:00 PM**	**Lethbridge**
Sat Jan 15	**7:00 PM**	**Lethbridge**
Fri Jan 21	7:30 PM	@ Calgary
Sat Jan 22	**7:00 PM**	**Calgary**
Feb 4 - 5	7:00 PM	@ Regina
Fri Feb 11	**7:00 PM**	**Saskatchewan**
Sat Feb 12	**7:00 PM**	**Saskatchewan**

CANADA WEST PLAYOFFS

Feb 18 - 20	Semi-Finals
Feb 25 - 27	Finals

CIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mar 10 - 13	@ Wilfrid Laurier (Waterloo)

NON CONFERENCE GAMES / TOURNAMENTS

Sun Sep 12	**2:00 PM**	**SAIT**
Sun Sep 19	**2:00 PM**	**NAIT**

GOLDEN BEARS PANDAS BASKETBALL

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES

	PANDAS	GOLDEN BEARS	VS
Oct 29 - 30	6PM, 5PM	8 PM, 7 PM	@ Thompson Rivers
Fri Nov 5	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**British Columbia**
Sat Nov 6	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**British Columbia**
Nov 12 -13	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	@ Brandon
Nov 19 - 20	6PM, 5 PM	8 PM, 7 PM	@ Trinity Western
Fri Nov 26	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Victoria**
Sat Nov 27	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Victoria**
Fri Dec 3	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Regina**
Sat Dec 4	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Regina**
Jan 7 - 8	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	@ Lethbridge
Jan 14 -15	6PM, 5 PM	8 PM, 7 PM	@ Fraser Valley
Fri Jan 21	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Manitoba**
Sat Jan 22	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Manitoba**
Fri Jan 28	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Winnipeg**
Sat Jan 29	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Winnipeg**
Feb 4 - 5	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	@ Saskatchewan
Fri Feb 11	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Calgary**
Sat Feb 12	**6:00 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Calgary**

CANADA WEST PLAYOFFS

Feb 25- 27	Quarter Finals
Mar 4 - 5	Final Four

CIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mar 11 - 12	Round One @ TBD	
Mar 11 - 13		@ Halifax
Mar 18 - 20	@ Windsor	

NON CONFERENCE GAMES / TOURNAMENTS

Oct 8 - 10	**TBD**	**Pandas Hoopfest**
Oct 8 - 10	**TBD**	**Golden Bears Invitational**

GOLDEN BEARS PANDAS VOLLEYBALL

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES

	PANDAS	GOLDEN BEARS	VS
Nov 5 - 6	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	@ British Columbia
Fri Nov 12	**8:00 PM**	**6:30 PM**	**Brandon**
Sat Nov 13	**6:30 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Brandon**
Fri Nov 19	**8:00 PM**	**6:30 PM**	**Trinity Western**
Sat Nov 20	**6:30 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Trinity Western**
Nov 26	7:45 PM	6:00 PM	@ Thompson Rivers
Nov 27	5:00 PM	6:45 PM	@ Thompson Rivers
Fri Jan 14	**8:00 PM**	**6:30 PM**	**Regina**
Sat Jan 15	**6:30 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Regina**
Jan 21- 22	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	@ Manitoba
Jan 28	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	@ Winnipeg
Jan 29	7:30 PM	6:00 PM	@ Winnipeg
Fri Feb 4	**8:00 PM**	**6:30 PM**	**Saskatchewan**
Sat Feb 5	**6:30 PM**	**8:00 PM**	**Saskatchewan**
Feb 11- 12	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	@ Calgary

CANADA WEST PLAYOFFS

Feb 18 - 20	Quarter Finals
Feb 25 - 26	Final Four

CIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mar 4 - 6	@ Laval (Quebec City)	@ Trinity Western (Langley)

NON CONFERENCE GAMES / TOURNAMENTS

Wed Sep 15	**6 & 8 PM**	**Team Canada Masters**
Oct 14 - 16	**TBD**	**Husky Energy Can Am Challenge**
Jan 7 - 9	**TBD**	**Pandas Invitational**

GOLDEN BEARS PANDAS SOCCER

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES

	PANDAS	GOLDEN BEARS	VS
Sep 11 - 12	NOON	2:15 PM	@ Saskatchewan
Sat Sep 18	**NOON**	**2:15 PM**	**Calgary**
Sun Sep 19	**NOON**	**2:15 PM**	**Lethbridge**
Fri Sep 24	5:00 PM		@ British Columbia
Sat Sep 25	7:00 PM	NOON	@Trinity Western / @Victoria
Sun Sep 26		NOON	@ Fraser Valley
Fri Oct 1		7:15 PM	@ British Columbia
Sat Oct 2	NOON	7:00 PM	@Regina / @Trinity Western
Sun Oct 3	NOON		@ Manitoba
Sat Oct 16	**NOON**	**2:15 PM**	**Fraser Valley**
Sun Oct 17	**NOON**	**2:15 PM**	**Victoria**
Sat Oct 23	NOON	2:00 PM	@ Lethbridge
Sun Oct 24	NOON	2:15 PM	@ Calgary
Sat Oct 30	**NOON**	**2:15 PM**	**Trinity Western**
Sun Oct 31	**NOON**	**2:15 PM**	**British Columbia**

CANADA WEST PLAYOFFS

Nov 5 - 7	Final Four

CIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nov 11 - 14	@ UPEI (Charlottetown)
Nov 11 - 14	@ Toronto

NON CONFERENCE GAMES / TOURNAMENTS

Aug 27 - 28	TBD Pre-Season Tournament

VARSITY SPORTS

PANDAS RUGBY

Fri Sep 24	**5:00 PM**	**Calgary**
Oct 1	3:00 PM	@ British Columbia
Oct 3	11:30 AM	@ Victoria
Sun Oct 17	**1:00 PM**	**Lethbridge**
Oct 22 - 24	CW Finals	@ Lethbridge
Nov 4 - 7	CIS Championship @ Trent (Peterborough)	

WRESTLING

Fri Jan 7	**Varsity Dual**
Sat Jan 8	**Golden Bears Invitational**
Feb 11 - 12	CW Finals @ Saskatchewan
Feb 25 - 26	CIS Championship @ Lakehead (Thunderbay)

TENNIS

Aug 8	University / College Championship @ Montreal

GOLF

May 23 - 27	University/College Championship @ Ashburn, ON

CURLING

Feb 11 - 13	**Western Regional Qualifier**
Mar 9 - 13	CIS/CCA Championship @ Memorial (St. John's)

CROSS COUNTRY

Nov 13	CIS Championship @ Sherbrooke

VARSITY SPORTS

PANDAS FIELD HOCKEY

Sep 18 - 19	11:00 AM	@ Victoria
Sat Sep 25	**1:00 PM**	**Calgary**
Sun Sep 26	**1:00 PM**	**Calgary**
Oct 2 -3	1:00 PM	@ British Columbia
Sat Oct 9	**1:00 PM**	**Victoria**
Sun Oct 10	**1:00 PM**	**Victoria**
Fri Oct 15	**6:00 PM**	**British Columbia**
Sat Oct 16	**6:00 PM**	**British Columbia**
Oct 23 - 24	1:00 PM	@ Calgary
Oct 30 - 31	Tie Breaker (if necessary)	
Nov 4 - 7	CIS Championship @ Guelph	

SWIMMING

Jan 15 - 16	**Green & Gold Sr. Invitational**
Jan 28 - 30	CW Finals @ UBC
Feb 24 - 26	CIS Championship @ Calgary

TRACK AND FIELD

Sun Jan 9	**Dual Meet**
Jan 21 - 23	**Golden Bears & Pandas Open**
Feb 25 - 26	CW Finals @ Manitoba
Mar 10 - 12	CIS Championship @ Sherbrooke

FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION

780-492-BEAR (2327)
www.bears.ualberta.ca
www.pandas.ualberta.ca

- **IN ADVANCE** at the **Activity Registration Zone Sales Office** W-79 Lower Level Van Vliet Centre, University of Alberta Campus
- **ON EVENT NIGHT** at the **Ticket Booth** prior to entering event. Subject to ticket availability. **Advance purchase is recommended.**

SEASON TICKETS

- Free Home Opener ticket per season ticket.
- 10% off on merchandise sold through ARZ Sales Office.
- Playoff game tickets at your season ticket holder rate.

EARLY BIRD $25 Hudsons Gift Certificate per ticket package purchase. (Valid for Hockey, Basketball and Volleyball)

Hudsons ON CAMPUS $15 Hudsons Gift Certificate per ticket package purchase. (Valid for Football and Soccer)

Prior to Oct 23, 2010 for Adults and Student/Seniors, and prior to first home game of season for U of A Students.

**While supplies last.*

	Adults	Student/ Seniors	U of A Student
Bears Hockey (14 G)	$ 126	$ 77	$ 28
Pandas Hockey (12 G)	$ 108	$ 66	$ 24
Basketball (12 G)	$ 108	$ 66	$ 24
Volleyball (8 G)	$ 72	$ 44	$ 16
Football (4 G)	$ 36	$ 22	$ 8
Soccer (6 G)	$ 42	$ 24	$ 12

Season tickets are only valid for Canada West Conference regular season play.

GAME DAY TICKETS

	Conference	Playoffs	Conference & Playoffs Soccer
Adult	$ 14	$ 16	$ 10
Student/Senior	$ 9	$ 11	$ 5
U of A Student	$ 5	$ 5	$ 5
Family (2 Adults, 2-3 Kids)	$ 40	$ 45	

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- Provides the flexibility to create your own schedule.
- Makes a great gift.

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	5 Game Pack	10 Game Pack
Adult	$ 60	$ 100
Student / Senior	$ 40	$ 80
U of A Student	$ 15	$ 25

Valid for Canada West Conference play only.

GROUP SALES

Bring your group and be the Golden Bears and Pandas special guests! Groups of 20 or more will receive 30% off the regular ticket price to any Canada West Conference game. Must be arranged 24 hours in advance by calling 780-492-BEAR (2327)

For information on Global Television's Kids in The Crowd Program and Cubs Club Program please see other side.

CATCH THE ACTION EXPERIENCE IT

**Seniors are 65+ *Kids 6 and under are free.*